

# DDMI TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE PANEL SESSION 15

## TK Watching Program, Full Historical Recommendation Review, and Status Update



Photo Credit: Det'on Cho Environmental and Diavik Diamond Mines Inc.

### Prepared for:

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Project No. 106573-01

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since 2011, the Traditional Knowledge (TK) Panel has guided Diavik Diamond Mines (2012) Inc. (DDMI) to consider Traditional Knowledge appropriately and meaningfully in operations, environmental management, and monitoring as well as closure planning at the Diavik Diamond Mine Site. The TK Panel consists of Elders and youth from Diavik's five Participation Agreement communities.

The TK Panel gathers at least once a year to discuss issues and concerns so Diavik can be made aware of their input and ensure that it is considered in project operations and closure activities. There have been 15 TK Panel sessions held. The most recent was from June 7<sup>th</sup> to June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Tree of Peace Friendship Center in Yellowknife, with a trip to the Diavik Diamond Mine on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

The purpose of this session was to provide an opportunity for DDMI staff to present the status of past recommendations back to the TK Panel and to further the discussion around the TK Watching Program (referred to as TK Monitoring Program in the Session #14 Report). Due to COVID-19 restrictions at the mine site during the 14<sup>th</sup> Panel session, participants were unable to travel and view the closure features that were being discussed during that session. As a result, the TK Panel was invited to the site for a one-day trip, during session 15, where various mine features were viewed, and Panel questions were answered.

This report summarizes the events of the 15<sup>th</sup> TK Panel session and outlines the recommendations put forth by the Panel regarding the closure of Diavik. The recommendations presented in this report are the same recommendations presented by the Panel participants to DDMI on the final day of the TK Panel Session. To contextualize the recommendations, they are presented in this report with a description of the rationale where applicable. This approach allows for DDMI to better address the recommendation, improve recommendation implementation tracking, and allow future participants to understand the nature of past recommendations.

This Executive Summary is not intended to be a stand-alone document, but a summary of the following Report. It is intended to be used in conjunction with the scope and limitations described therein.

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Acronym / Abbreviation	Definition
DCE	Det'on Cho Environmental
DDMI	Diavik Diamond Mines (2012) Inc.
KIA	Kitikmeot Inuit Association
LKDFN	Lutselk'e Dene First Nation
Mine	Diavik Diamond Mine
NSMA	North Slave Métis Alliance
PA	Participation Agreement
PKC	Processed Kimberlite Containment
the Panel	Traditional Knowledge Panel
the Program	TK Watching Program
TK	Traditional Knowledge
YKDFN	Yellowknives Dene First Nation

## 1.0 BACKGROUND

Since 2011, the Traditional Knowledge (TK) Panel has guided Diavik Diamond Mines (2012) Inc. (DDMI) to consider Traditional Knowledge appropriately and meaningfully in operations, environmental management, and monitoring as well as closure planning at the Diavik Diamond Mine Site (Mine). The TK Panel consists of Elders and youth from Diavik's five Participation Agreement communities. One male Elder, one female Elder, and one youth are selected by each of Diavik's five Indigenous groups:

- Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA)
- Łutselk'e Dene First Nation (LKDFN)
- North Slave Metis Alliance (NSMA)
- Tłıchq Government
- Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN).

The TK Panel gathers at least once per year to discuss be presented information from DDMI, discuss issues and concerns related to activity on site, and to make DDMI aware of their input and ensure that it is considered in project operations and closure activities. There have been 15 TK Panel sessions held. Due to availability and timing of sessions, the TK Panel members in attendance vary from session to session. The most recent session occurred June 7<sup>th</sup> to June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Tree of Peace Friendship Center in Yellowknife, this included a daytrip to the Diavik Diamond Mine (Diavik or the Mine) on June 8<sup>th</sup>. During this session the TK Panel reviewed the recommendations that have been made to date and considered what a TK Watching Program during and after closure would look like. The TK Watching Program (the Program) was formerly referred to as the TK Monitoring Program during Session #14, it has since been changed to better reflect the goals of the Program and to address feedback from the Panel during Session #14.

## 2.0 SESSION PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW

The purpose of this session was for DDMI staff to provide an update on the status of recommendations made by the TK Panel since the Panel's inception 11 years ago up to Session #12. Additionally, this session focused on the TK Watching Program, which was discussed in Session #14, and is meant to incorporate TK and on-the-land observations into closure monitoring.

Session #15 also included a one-day site visit to Diavik. This site visit was the first one for the Panel since the suspension of visitors to site due to COVID-19 protocol in 2020. The site visit served as an opportunity for Panel members to see the changes that have occurred over the past two years and to view the areas of the mine discussed, but not visited, during Session #14. During this visit, the TK Panel was given a tour of various locations around the mine site with the opportunity to ask questions of DDMI staff. Refer to **Section 3** for a list of mine features viewed on the site tour.

While a TK Watching Program was discussed during Session #14, many of the participants in attendance expressed an interest in seeing the mine site in person to make better informed recommendations on the closure plans for different areas of the mine. Additionally, the discussions of a TK Watching Program warranted more time than was available during Session #14 to provide detailed recommendations and was therefore the focus of Session #15.

### 2.1 Session #15 Overview

In addition to the 14 participants, the facilitation team, and DDMI representatives, there were also one staff member from YKDFN, one Environmental Monitoring Agency Board (EMAB) representative, and five interpreters in attendance.

**Table 1 TK Session #15 Attendees**

Affiliation	Name	Role
Det'on Cho Environmental (DCE)	Peter Clarkson	Facilitator
	Brenda Michel	Facilitator
	Claire Tincombe	Facilitator/Transcriber
Diavik Diamond Mine Inc. (DDMI)	Myra Berrub	DDMI Staff
	Gord Macdonald	DDMI Staff
	Sean Sinclair	DDMI Staff
	Gordon Cumming**	DDMI Staff
	Jessie Eyakfwo**	DDMI Bus driver
Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA)	Barbara Adjun	Participant
	Nancy Kadlun	Participant
	Vikki Niptanatiak	Participant (youth)
Łutsel K'e Dene First Nation (LKDFN)	Albert Boucher*	Participant
	August Enzoe	Participant
	Bertha Catholique	Interpreter
	Sara Boucher	Interpreter

Affiliation	Name	Role
North Slave Métis Alliance (NSMA)	Katherine Arden	Participant
	Wayne Langenhan	Participant
Tłıchq Government	Monique (Margaret) Nitsiza	Participant
	Charlie Apples	Participant
	Benjamin Pea'a	Participant (youth)
	James Rabesca	Interpreter
Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN)	Peter D Sangris	Participant
	Mary-Jane Francis	Participant
	Natisha Drygeese**	YKDFN Staff Representative
	Lena Drygeese	Interpreter
	Mary Rose Sundberg	Interpreter
Environmental Monitoring Agency Board (EMAB)	Dylan Price	Observer/EMAB Staff

\*Indicates a TK Panel member who did not travel to the Mine site but was present during the Yellowknife-based portions of the session.

\*\*Indicates a participant or attendee who was present at the Mine site but was not present during the Yellowknife-based portions of the session

### 3.0 SESSION GOALS AND ACTIVITIES

The main activities of this session included a presentation from DDMI on the status of recommendations made by the TK Panel since the TK Panel began and discussion regarding the proposed TK Watching Program.

The session began with a review of the agenda among participants and any adaptations were made. A copy of the agenda can be found in **Appendix A**.<sup>1</sup> All participants, visitors, and presenters were then asked to review and sign an Informed Consent form (**Appendix B**). To bring new participants up to speed, the facilitation team outlined the overall goal of the TK Panel and the expected outcomes of the sessions. For new TK Panel members, DDMI began with an overview of the site, including the presentation of a fly-over video outlining the features of the Mine site.



**Photo 1** TK Panel Youth Member Benjamin Pea'a and DDMI Staff Jessie Eyakfwo opening the site visit with drumming.

<sup>1</sup> The agenda was adapted, at the request of the Panel, to include a discussion with DDMI staff regarding the change in facilitators. The current facilitators were not present during this discussion and it is therefore not included in the transcription notes.



DDMI staff delivered a summary presentation on the status of all 210 recommendations made and recorded through the TK Panel since its inception in 2012.<sup>2</sup> A copy of the presentation can be found in **Appendix C**.

This presentation was given in response to requests from the TK Panel. Since the participants at the TK Panel have changed over the last 10 years, some participants have less knowledge of recommendations previously provided by the Panel. Through the review of past recommendations with the TK Panel members in attendance, and the development of a handout for future additional members, members will be able to provide recommendations that consider choices made and discussions had during past TK Panel sessions. Additionally, DDMI presented the summary of recommendations and status update to demonstrate where TK Panel recommendations have impacted the operations and planning at the mine and highlight instances where recommendations were not applicable and were therefore not addressed.

The recommendations were divided into the categories below, recommendations were then further filtered based on their status as completed, in progress, or unactionable:

- Environment
  - Wildlife
  - Vegetation
  - Fish and Water
- Mine Areas
  - Processed Kimberlite Containment
  - Open Pits
  - Rock Piles
  - North Inlet
- Spiritual and Cultural
- Traditional Knowledge Based Observation



**Photo 2** Attendees of the Diavik Diamond Mine site visit.

Of the 210 recommendations made by the TK Panel between 2012 to 2019, 81 recommendations have been completed, 69 are in progress, and 11 have been accepted but not started. There were 28 that DDMI could not address and 21 that were not appropriate for DDMI to address or were considered statements.

<sup>2</sup> The recommendations from Sessions #13 and #14 were not included in the recommendation status presentation as neither Session's recommendations had been finalized before Session #15. Separate presentations outlined DDMI's responses to recommendations made in TK Panel Sessions #13 and #14.



Due to the risk of COVID-19 and the possibility of having to isolate at site if a positive case of COVID-19 were recorded, the TK Panel met at the Tree of Peace Friendship Center in Yellowknife and spent one day at the Mine site rather than Diavik hosting all 3 days of the session at the mine as was typically done. The following areas of the site were visited during the day tour of Diavik:



**Photo 3** Site visit attendees observing the landfill.

1. North Inlet
2. A418 and A154 pits
3. Landfill and Processed Kimberlite Containment (PKC) Facility
4. Vegetation test plots
5. Test piles for NCRP cover
6. Waste Transfer Area
7. Windfarm and Pond 7

Participants toured the mine site in a bus with narration by DDMI staff. With the exception of the test piles for the NCRP cover and the Waste Transfer Area, which were viewed from inside the bus, participants were invited to leave the bus at each stop to view the area and ask questions of the staff in attendance. Following the site tour, the TK Panel met in the Diavik gymnasium to reflect on what they observed during the tour and ask further questions of DDMI staff. A transcription of this discussion can be found in **Appendix D**.

During the final day of the session, the TK Panel met in Yellowknife to debrief from the previous day's site visit and to further discuss the details of the TK Watching Program. The last day of the session concluded with a presentation of the TK Panel's recommendations.

*"I am so happy to come back and keep coming back. Especially when I can see what is working right and what is working great. The first time I came, our land was so hurt, but getting closer to the closure I feel good to see what is working right and thankful for groups like this."*

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*Nancy Kadlun, TK Panel Member  
from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association*

## 4.0 REPORT OUTLINE

This report summarizes the events of the 15<sup>th</sup> TK Panel session and outlines the recommendations put forth by the Panel regarding the closure of Diavik. The recommendations presented in this report are the same recommendations presented by the Panel participants to DDMI on the final day of the TK Panel Session. To contextualize the recommendations, they are presented in this report with a description of the rationale. This approach allows for DDMI to better address the recommendation, improve recommendation implementation tracking, and allow future participants to understand the nature of past recommendations.



**Photo 4** TK Panel members and DDMI staff at one of the open pits.

The appendix includes the following:

- A copy of the Informed Consent Form (**Appendix A**)
- A copy of the Meeting Agenda (**Appendix B**)
- DDMI Presentation material and Handouts (**Appendix C**)
- Verbatim transcription notes from each day of the TK Panel Session (**Appendix D**)
- Photos from the TK Panel Session (**Appendix E**).

## 5.0 PROCEEDINGS: KEY QUESTIONS, THEMES, AND GUIDANCE POINTS

This TK Panel session provided an opportunity for DDMI to present information related to the status of past recommendations as well as further explore the design and delivery of a TK Watching Program. Recording recommendations from the TK Panel on the TK Watching Program was the primary objective of the session and the focus of the final day of the session. The premise of the TK Watching Program was discussed briefly during Session #14, however, it was revisited during Session #15 with a different approach. To encourage more discussion and brainstorming, the facilitation team divided the TK Panel into 4 breakout groups.

The breakout groups were divided as follows:

1. North Slave Métis Alliance
2. Kitikmeot Inuit Association
3. Łutsel K'e Dene First Nation
4. Tłıchq and the Yellowknives Dene First Nation

Each group was facilitated by either one of the 3 facilitators or by one of DDMI's staff representatives. During the breakout group sessions, participants were asked to consider what a successful TK Watching Program, post-closure, would look like. Facilitators prompted Panel members to share their thoughts on the design of the TK Watching Program, including (but not limited to):

- What categories should be observed post-closure?
- How often should observation take place?
- How should observations be made and recorded?
- Who should be making observations?
- What criteria would suggest that the land is returning to a more natural state?



**Photo 5** Facilitator, Brenda Michel, pointing to an area of the vegetation test plots with Panel member Barbara Adjun.

The breakout group facilitators recorded the participants input/recommendations on flip charts. The recommendations for each breakout group were then presented to the overall TK Panel and DDMI representatives for consideration and discussion. These recommendations are summarised in **Table 3**.

## 6.0 PROCEEDINGS: RECOMMENDATIONS

Though the focus of Session #15 was to discuss past recommendations and a future TK Watching Program, some recommendations were made based on observation and discussion from the Mine site tour. Participants had not viewed the site since at least 2019 and as a result had general recommendations which are presented in **Table 2**.

*"I was really pleased with the vegetation. We plotted 18 years ago and I didn't think it was going to work. I went back 3 years in a row and it was growing in one spot here, one spot there and so I lost interest in it in 3 years because I didn't think it was going to grow. But coming back 18 years later and it really did, it's going to work. So that one part that you did, you did a good job on it. So Marsi Cho, you guys did an awesome job."*

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*Brenda Michel, DCE Facilitator discussing the success of the vegetation plots she helped plant 18 years ago while an employee at Diavik.*

**Table 2 General Recommendations**

Number	Topic	Recommendation	Rationale/Context
15.1	Coppermine River	The TK Panel recommends presenting the results of the Coppermine River water testing to the community of Kugluktuk and discussing the possibility of sampling the river more frequently.	KIA representatives on the TK Panel expressed interest in seeing more frequent testing of the Coppermine River. DDMI staff explained that testing is done twice per year. It was determined that a presentation from DDMI on the results of this testing would be beneficial to the community of Kugluktuk.
15.2	Landfill contents	The TK Panel recommends Diavik present a list of the materials being buried in the landfill as well as the materials that are not permitted in the landfill.	The landfill at Diavik was viewed during the site visit on June 8th. This sparked interest from Panel participants regarding what is and is not allowed in the landfill and, subsequently, what waste is and is not trucked back out from the mine site.
15.3	Water monitoring at Lac de Gras	The TK Panel would like to see the water in Lac de Gras monitored in the winter and in the summer.	The Panel representatives expressed interest in seeing more frequent monitoring of Lac de Gras.
15.4	Landfill contents and back hauling	The TK Panel recommends backhauling unneeded materials on-site to limit the amount of waste in the Diavik landfill.	The Panel would like to see more backhauling throughout the closure process to divert unneeded materials from the landfill.
15.5	Remaining infrastructure at closure	The TK Panel recommends leaving some buildings for use by hunters, trappers, and monitors post-closure. These buildings are to be the shared responsibility of the federal government and the mine.	The Panel expressed interest in leaving some of the buildings currently at the Diavik Mine site post-closure for use by land users and Indigenous monitors.
15.6	Distribution of useable materials at closure	The TK Panel recommends communities be asked what resources they would like to have from the mine site upon closure.	Materials on-site, such as gym equipment and kitchen appliances, may be useful for the Participant Agreement (PA) communities.

**Table 3** is the culmination of the recommendations made by each breakout group regarding the design and delivery of the TK Watching Program.

**Table 3 TK Watching Program Recommendations**

Number	Topic	Recommendation	Rationale/Context
15.7	Formation of a TK Watching Committee	The TK Panel recommends a separate TK Watching Committee be formed to determine the details of the Watching Program. The TK Panel will provide guidance to this committee as needed.	Though the Panel recommends Elders be a part of the TK Watching Program, the TK Panel representatives will likely need support from others to determine the logistics of the Program. As such, the formation of a TK Watching Committee could receive guidance from the TK Panel which would then be used to inform the creation of a TK Watching Program, including the details of the program and the timing of the site visits.
15.8	Land regeneration	The TK Panel recommends that the goal of closure be to bring the land back to as close to a natural state as possible and to allow for natural processes (such as erosion, rain, and wind) to help clean the area.	In early TK Panel sessions, some of the recommendations involved a more active approach to land regeneration (i.e., moving nearby soils or tundra mats to disturbed areas). However, in recent years the TK Panel has provided differing guidance that leans more towards a natural regeneration approach, where natural processes are left alone to regenerate the land.
15.9	Evolution of TK Watching Program	The TK Panel recommends the TK Watching Program not be static, it will need to evolve and adapt to the observations on the land and the effects of climate change.	The Panel emphasized that observations and decisions made throughout closure and into post-closure will impact various areas of the Watching Program, including what is observed, when it is observed, and how frequently.
15.10	Focus of TK Watching Program	The TK Panel recommends the TK Watching Program observe the following: Wildlife diversity, quantity, behaviour, and health (including observations of internal animal tissue) Vegetation health and quantity after the closure of the mine including mushrooms, lichen, berries, and plants. Water clarity in Lac de Gras in areas closest to the mine site should be observed. Fish camps should continue, and fish quantity, quality, and health should be observed. Sediment from the bottom of the lake should be scooped up and observed. Fly-bys to look at snow and ice conditions and cleanliness should be a part of the TK Watching Program. Animal counts and signs of animal carcasses can also be observed during these fly-bys.	The recommendations made regarding the focus of the TK Watching Program represent some areas where the TK Panel feels observations should be made. This is a preliminary list and will likely evolve through further discussion.

Number	Topic	Recommendation	Rationale/Context
15.11	Logistics of TK Watching Program	<p>The TK Panel recommends the following be incorporated into the TK Watching Program:</p> <p>Visit and observe every year or twice per year alternating between winter (when ice fishing camps with fish tasting and testing can occur and caribou migration can be observed) and spring/summer. Observations should be made at various locations.</p> <p>The Watching Committee will be the ones who go out on the land and make the observations. This committee should be made up of one elder per gender and one youth from each PA community as well as hunters and trappers. Land users should also have a way to report their observations to the Watching Committee. These reports would be made to Diavik and then communicated to the Watching Committee.</p> <p>Remote cameras (such as ones at the PKC and the NCRP) should be used to observe wildlife in-between visits to the site.</p>	The recommendations made regarding the logistics of the TK Watching Program represent some ways in which the TK Panel feels observations can be made. This is a preliminary list and will likely evolve through further discussion.
15.12	Focus of first 5 years post-closure	The TK Panel recommends that in the first 5 years the Watching Program focuses on; vegetation (as this will be a food source enticing animals to return to the land); the type, quantity, frequency, and use of the land by wildlife; the health and location of fish (including examining stomach content), the clarity and taste of the water; the way the PKC is functioning; permafrost health, and the returned presence of small mammals and birds.	The recommendations made regarding the timing of the TK Watching Program represent some ways in which the TK Panel feels observations can be made. This is a preliminary list and will likely evolve through further discussion.
15.13	Focus of first 10 years post-closure	The TK Panel recommends that, in addition to the 5-year focus areas, 10 years post-closure the TK Watching Program should focus on the presence of large mammals and the presence of fish and vegetation in the filled-in pits.	
15.14	Focus of 20+ years post-closure	The TK Panel recommends that, in addition to the 10-year post-closure focus areas, at 20 years the focus of the Watching Program should be to observe if people and animals are using the land as they once did before the mine was constructed.	
15.15	Site Access Post-closure	The TK Panel recommends Diavik determine how the TK Watching Committee will be able to access the site post closure.	TK Panel members discussed their desire to have some mine infrastructure left for monitors to use when visiting the former Diavik site post-closure. The logistics of this are not yet settled, however, the TK Panel recommends this be determined along side the development of the TK Watching Program.



## 7.0 TK PANEL NEXT STEPS

Through the TK Panel's discussion, DDML received recommendations which will aid in the development of a framework for a TK Watching Program during and after closure. As noted in the recommendations, the TK Watching Program will need to adapt to changes in the land over time. DDML intends further engagement activities to refine the Program and develop a plan for implementation. This plan will be submitted to the Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board by the end of 2022.

## 8.0 REPORT CLOSURE

Following a 2-year hiatus of visitors to the Mine site due to COVID-19, the 15<sup>th</sup> TK Panel provided a much-appreciated opportunity for TK Panel members to see the land with their own eyes and comment on the changes to it since their last visit. Additionally, Panel members were able to view areas of the site discussed during Session #14 and provide further comment and recommendations on the closure of those areas.

This report summarizes the events of Session #15, including the valuable TK shared by the Panel with DDML and DCE's facilitation team. We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to have assisted DDML with the facilitation of the TK Panel sessions. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned by phone at 867.873.6533 ext. 4102.

Report prepared by:  
**Det'on Cho Environmental**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CT' followed by a stylized flourish.

Claire Tincombe, BA (Honours)  
Managing Director

Report prepared by:  
**Det'on Cho Environmental**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Loughery' in a cursive script.

Jennifer Loughery, PhD, P.Biol.  
Project Manager

# **APPENDIX A**

## **Informed Consent Form**



## Informed Consent Form

I (name) \_\_\_\_\_, give permission for Det'on Cho Environmental (DCE) and its technical service provider Hemmera Envirochem Inc (Hemmera), a wholly owned subsidiary of Ausenco Canada Inc. to record my comments, Traditional Knowledge (TK; also known as Indigenous Knowledge, IK), Traditional Environmental Knowledge (TEK), and Traditional Land Use Knowledge (TLU) for the Diavik Diamond Mine Inc Traditional Knowledge Panel #15.

**Participation in the Project is voluntary** and will include a 4-day TK Panel Session. The aim of these sessions is to promote the sharing of TEK and TLU information. The sessions will be documented through notes, photographs and may be audio/video taped for future reference. The results of this workshop will be shared in a summary final report and other project communications. Your comments and photographs may be used in the final report.

You do not have to answer any questions you do not want to, and you can withdraw your participation at any time (up until the Final Report is finalized) by letting the researchers know if and how you would like any of your contributions to date to be used.

We will undertake care to keep your contributions protected and secure. Information and contributions gathered during information sharing sessions will be securely stored and accessed only by Project researchers. Computer files (including audio/video digital files, if applicable) will be password protected and/or saved in restricted, access restricted folders on the Hemmera server. Written files will be kept in a locked file cabinet in the DCE/Hemmera, Yellowknife office. DCE and Hemmera will not use your contributions for any purpose other than for the Project.

We ask that you decide how you would like your contributions to appear in the workshop's findings. One of our ways of appreciating and acknowledging your contributions is to list your name as a contributor to the Project. **Please check 'yes' or 'no' to the following questions.**

Question	Yes	No
Do you consent to your name being used in the final report to reference your contributions to the discussion?		
Do you consent to your Indigenous Organization* affiliation being used in the final report beside your name?  *Recognizing that you were chosen as a representative of your community but that your opinions are solely your own.		
Do you consent to pictures of you, taken during the session, being used in the final report?		

---

**Signature of Participant**

**Date**

I believe the person signing this form understands the study and the nature of their involvement. I will only apply their contributions according to the conditions stated above.

---

**Signature of Researcher(s)**

**Date**

***Thank you for your time and contributions***

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Session Agenda**

# DIAVIK TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE PANEL SESSION

## DRAFT AGENDA

Dates:	June 7-10, 2022
Location:	Yellowknife (Tree of Peace) (1-day trip to Diavik)
Presented by:	Diavik Diamond Mine Inc. Det'on Cho Environmental
File:	106573-01
Re:	<b>Session #15 – Diavik Community Watching Program: Incorporating Traditional Knowledge into Closure Watching</b>

**Note: Session with community members in Yellowknife finalizing AEMP TK Camp documents on Monday June 6**

### Tuesday June 7, 2022 – Yellowknife Based

- 8:30 am Arrival
- 9:00 am Opening Prayer and Welcome, Round Table Introductions, Review of Draft Agenda, Overview of Session Purpose:  
**‘How would you look at this land or water in the future to be comfortable it is returning to a more natural state’**  
Review of Process<sup>1</sup>
- 9:15 am Presentation: TK Panel Recommendations (2012-2021)
- 10:30 am Break
- 10:45 am Group Discussion of Recommendations
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Group Discussion of Recommendations for Closure Watching Program
- 2:00 pm Site Tour – Review Plan
- 2:45 pm Break\COVID Rapid Antigen Tests
- 3:30 pm President – Introduction
- 4:00 pm Close

<sup>1</sup> Breaks will occur as needed for participants and translators

**Wednesday June 8, 2022 – 1-Day Travel to Diavik**

7:15 am Check-in at G&G for travel to Diavik Mine

8:00 am Charter flight to Diavik Mine  
Arrival at Diavik Mine, security, orientation\*

9:45 am Cultural Ceremony

10:00 am Site Tour

11:00 pm Lunch

12:00 pm Discussion

12:30 pm Resume Site Tour

3:30 pm Break

3:45 pm Debrief Discussion

4:30 pm Check in for return flight

5:00 pm Depart for Yellowknife

6:00 pm Land at G&G

**Thursday June 9, 2022 – Yellowknife Based**

8:30 am Opening

8:45 am Diavik Community Watching Program: Incorporating Traditional Knowledge Watching into Closure

10:00 am Break-out Group Discussions

12:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm Group Discussion to Form Recommendations

2:00 pm Presentation of Recommendations to Diavik

3:00 pm Next Steps/Next Session

3:15 pm Closing Circle & Prayer

3:45 pm Close



G&G Address (Det'on Cho Logistics)

102 McMillan Street  
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## **APPENDIX C**

### **Presentation Material**



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# Summary of the Traditional Knowledge Panel Recommendations and Actions

June 7-9th, 2022

Tree of Peace, Yellowknife

# Welcome & Agenda

- ❖ Opening Prayer and Introductions
- ❖ Setting the Context:
  - Site Overview Video
  - Closure and Reclamation Plan Update
- ❖ Summary of Recommendations by the Traditional Knowledge Panel Over Time





## Part 1: Setting the Context



# Site Fly-Over Video (Footage from Fall 2021)

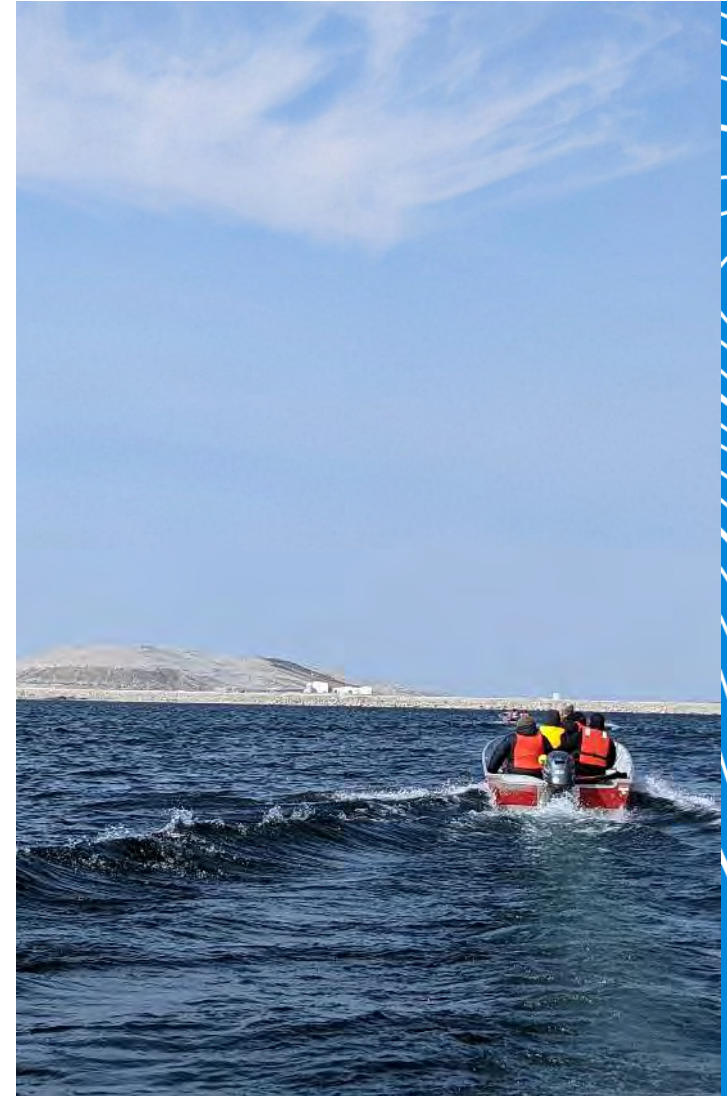




# Final Closure and Reclamation Plan Update

## TK Watching

- ❖ Diavik plans to submit its Final Closure and Reclamation Plan to the Wek'èezhìi Land and Water Board by end of 2022.
- ❖ The Plan will include a framework for Closure TK Monitoring.



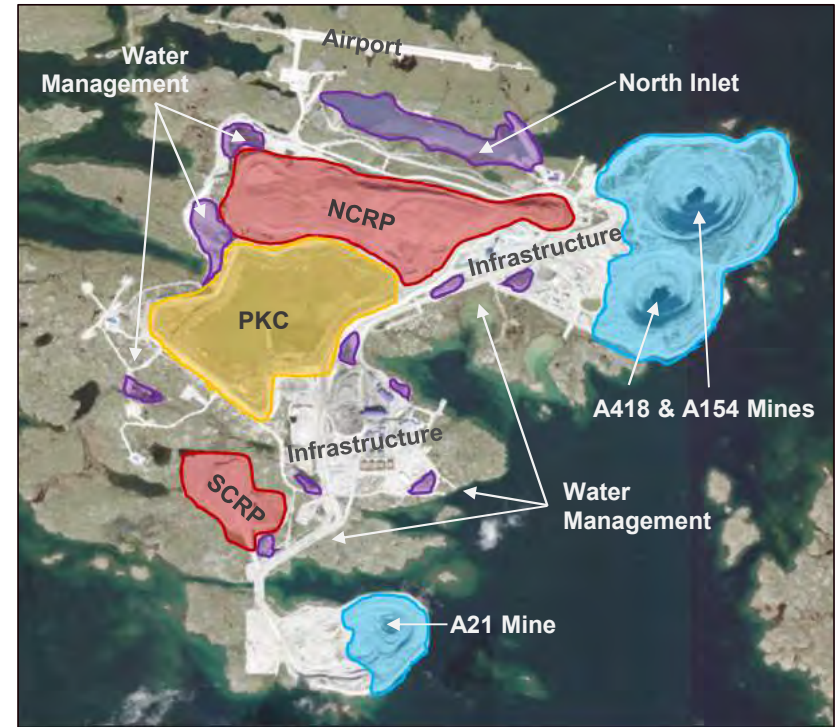
## Diavik Closure Goals: Developed with input from communities and approved by WLWB

1. Land and water that is physically and chemically stable and safe for people, wildlife and aquatic life.
2. Land and water that allows for traditional use.
3. Final landscape guided by Traditional Knowledge.
4. Final landscape guided by pre-development conditions.
5. Final landscape that is neutral to wildlife – being neither a significant attractant nor significant deterrent relative to pre-development conditions.
6. Maximize northern business opportunities during operations and closure.
7. Develop northern capacities during operations and closure for the benefit of the North, post-closure.
8. Final site conditions that do not require a continuous presence of mine staff.





# Closure Planning Overview



**Mine Workings:** Remove mobile equipment and hazardous materials, flood mines with water from Lac de Gras; dikes to be breached to allow full reconnection with big lake.



**Rock Piles:** Sloped sediment/till + rock cover to freeze potentially acid generating rock within NCRP; wildlife access ramps for safe passage on SCRP.



**Processed Kimberlite Containment:** Rock cover to separate PK from people and wildlife and create a stable surface.



**North Inlet and Water Management:** Reconnect natural drainages to allow surface runoff flow into Lac de Gras. Allow natural bioremediation of hydrocarbon impacted sediments for as long as possible before North Inlet reconnection takes place.



**Infrastructure:** Removal of all mine infrastructure, disposal of all inert materials in on-site landfill unless they can be practically recycled, donated or sold; targeted revegetation; investigate alternative options where some infrastructure left behind to fulfill alternative future use.

# TK Panel Sessions

14 Panel Sessions have been held 2012-2022

Session 13 has remained a draft

Session 14 report is under review

210 recommendations have been made



RioTinto

## Themes:

### Environmental

- ❖ Wildlife, vegetation, fish, water

### Mine Areas

- ❖ North Inlet, Processed Kimberlite Containment, Open Pits, Rock Piles

### Spiritual and Cultural

- ❖ Ceremonies, Historical Areas, Traditional Customs

### Traditional Knowledge Based Observation Program

- ❖ Community members watching closure and the land

# Environment: **Wildlife**

## Completed Recommendations

- ❖ Cross cultural training to respect animals
- ❖ Included TK recommended caribou behaviours in monitoring program
- ❖ Shape rock piles to resemble eskers
- ❖ Create safe passage areas for wildlife (including considerations for caribou feet with fine materials)
- ❖ Find out if processed kimberlite could be harmful to wildlife
- ❖ Have a wildlife camera at the narrows





## Wildlife Recommendations In Progress



**Develop a caribou watching plan for closure and post closure – and with Ekati**

**Apply TK based approached to deter caribou at closure from unsafe areas**

**Develop ideas for community-based watching program and projects**

**Protect areas of natural vegetation and investigate that re-vegetated areas are safe to eat**

**Develop ideas for community-based watching program and projects**

**Develop ideas for community-based watching program and projects**



# Wildlife

## Accepted Recommendations

These have been accepted by Diavik but not started

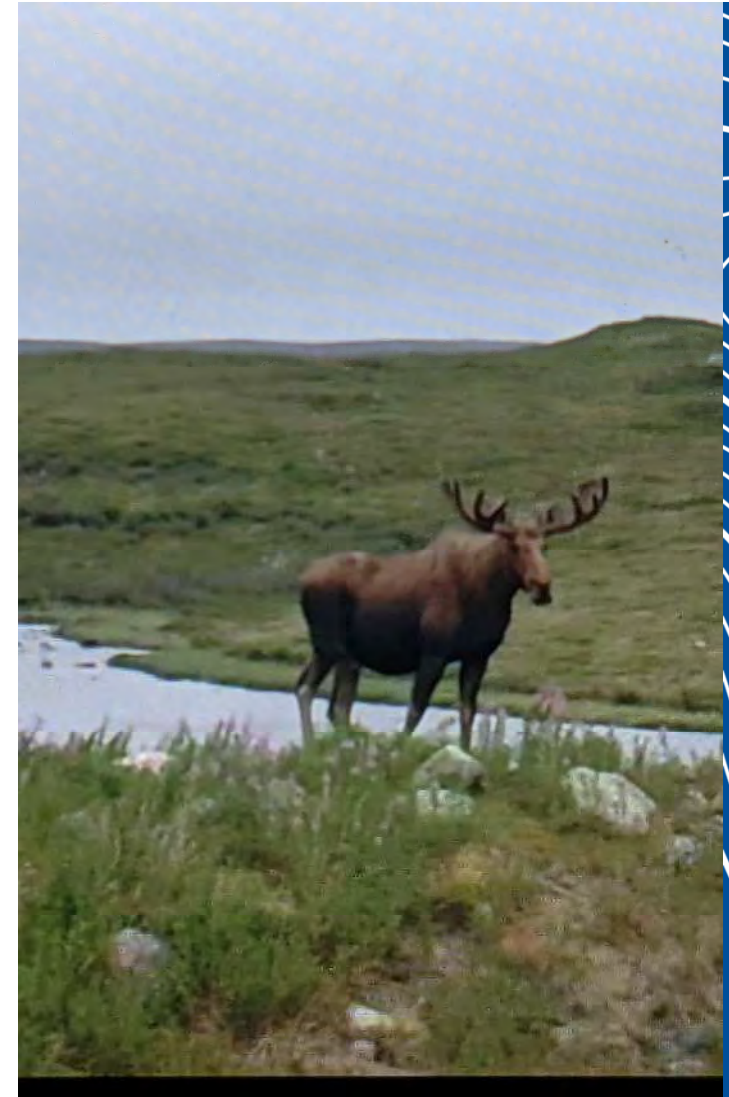
- ❖ Discuss where to have wildlife cameras at closure



# Wildlife

## Recommendations that could not be Actioned

- ❖ Not things Diavik can change on their own:
  - Moving the TK Camp to Lac de Sauvage
  - Changing the procedures when injured or dead wildlife are found
- ❖ Shift in ideas or plan:
  - Revegetating the rock piles
    - Neutral Presence
  - Processed kimberlite fines (slimes) moved to the pits
    - Freeze in place





# Wildlife

## Recommendations Determined to be Not Applicable

- ❖ Processed Kimberlite Containment Pond
  - The plan has changed to a rock fill cover
- ❖ Reshaping the dams around the processed kimberlite containment area for wildlife passage
  - Safety concerns



# Vegetation

## Completed Recommendations

- ❖ Maps of areas to be revegetated were developed
- ❖ Revegetate with native species – incorporated into plans
- ❖ Plan to cap rock piles with the best available materials
- ❖ Leave vegetation that has grown between pits and dikes when flooding the area
  - Provided other stakeholders (DFO) accept
- ❖ Do not build reefs in the bottom of the pit lakes





# Vegetation

## Recommendations In Progress

- ❖ TK Panel mine site visit to see revegetation plots
- ❖ Revegetate the North Country Rock Pile ponds
- ❖ Continued support for cumulative effects regional monitoring plan and station
- ❖ Development of a TK based watching program



# Vegetation

## Recommendations that could not be Actioned

- ❖ Using natural tundra mats
  - An area that Diavik has permission to disturb
- ❖ Using scat as fertilizer
  - Long term solution
- ❖ Use soils from outside of the mine site
  - Diavik would need to disturb a new area
- ❖ Revegetating the rock piles
  - Plan changed to having a neutral presence





# Fish & Water

## Completed Recommendations

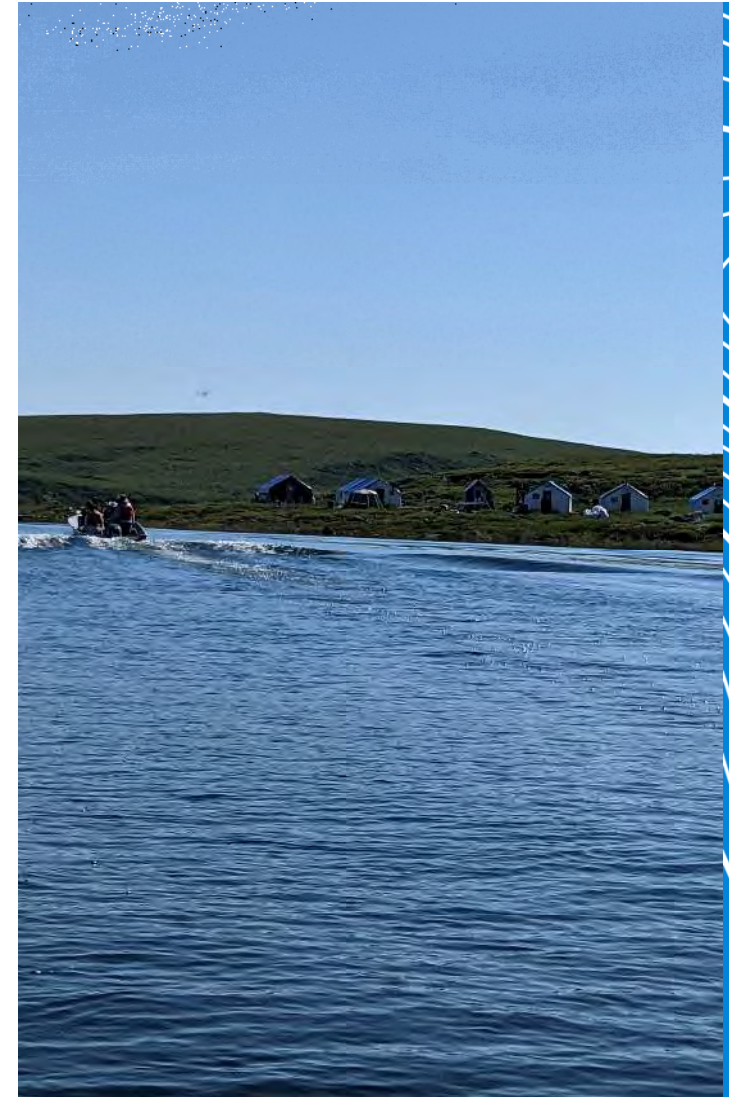
- ❖ Investigate wetland filtering for rock pile seepage water
- ❖ Have a moat around the North Country Rock Pile
  - There are ponds that would provide a similar function
- ❖ Drain the pond at the South Country Rock Pile – Fall 2017
- ❖ Investigated how to fill the pits to minimize degraded quality
- ❖ When and where to monitor water
  - Locations and times already monitored
- ❖ Discuss the North Inlet – Session 14



# Fish & Water

## Recommendations In Progress

- ❖ Long term monitoring or watching plans
  - To show clean safe water before reconnecting & to study behavior in different seasons
    - North Country Rock Pile – frozen state
    - Pit Lakes
    - North Inlet
  - Watch for shorelines for algal growth
  - Fish monitoring
    - Record why some fish are rejected by Elders
- ❖ Monitor South Country Rock Pile water seepage

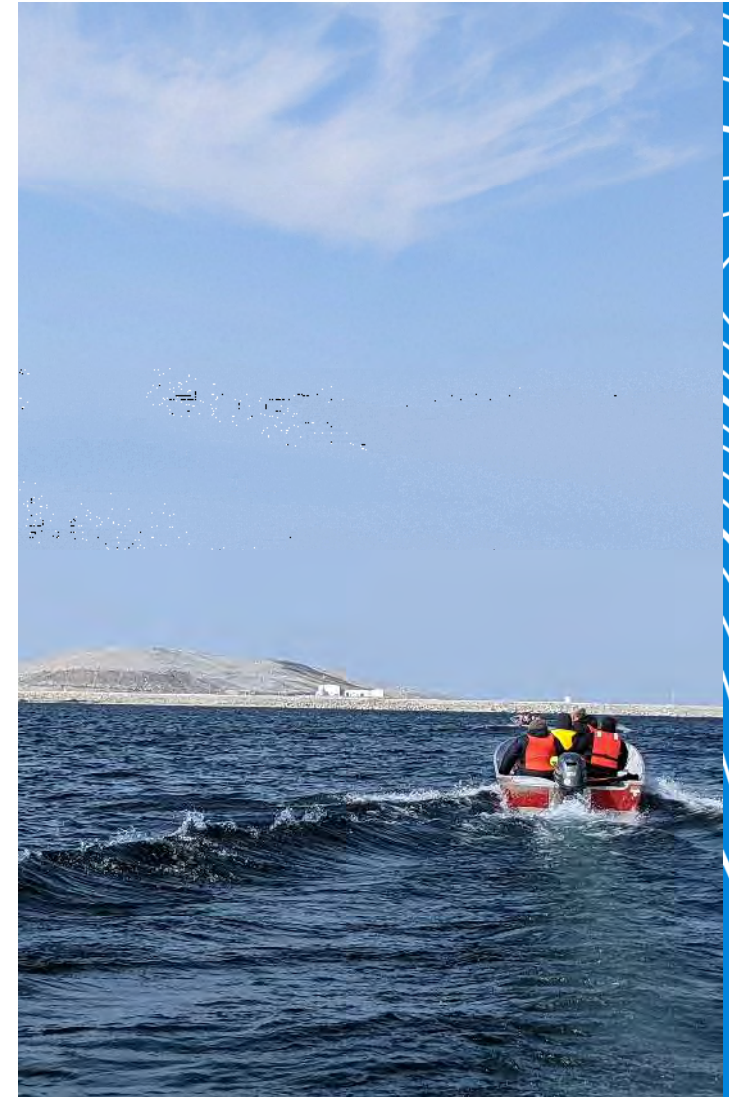




# Fish & Water

## Not Being Actioned

- ❖ Constructing channels to filter water seepage from rock piles
  - Natural channel exist
- ❖ Removing fine processed kimberlite (slimes) unless they are found to be nontoxic
  - Tested & are nontoxic
- ❖ Monitor and filter seepage from the Processed Kimberlite Containment (PKC)
  - Monitoring is done with natural filtration
- ❖ Stop adding slimes to the PKC
  - No other location for it to go to



# Recommendations by Mine Area



# Mine Areas: Processed Kimberlite Containment

## Completed Recommendations

- ❖ Create a cover with a light-colored material
- ❖ Investigate the toxicity of the slimes
- ❖ Return the area to as natural a state as possible
  - Diavik researched the re-vegetation efforts in northern climates in 2014
- ❖ Provide an overview of the 16 closure options
  - Provided at the October 2013 Session
- ❖ The Beach material and rough kimberlite can remain in place to support a cover over slimes (2018 Panel)





# Processed Kimberlite Containment

## Recommendations that could not be Actioned

- ❖ Removing the slimes to a new location and find a hard surface to put a cover on
  - A new location could not be found
  - A cover will be built
- ❖ Open sections of the dam for natural flow of seepage
  - Safety concerns
  - conflicts with recommendations for natural filtration before the water reaches Lac de Gras
- ❖ Reshape the dam for wildlife passage
  - Safety concerns



# Mine Areas: Open Pits

## Completed Recommendations

- ❖ Leave vegetation between dikes and pits
- ❖ Leave the roads
- ❖ Do not disturb the walls of the pits when filling
  - Investigated and found minimal effect on water quality
- ❖ Tour the underground – May 2018
  - Some Panel members toured the underground areas while others toured the processing plant



# Mine Areas: Open Pits

## Recommendations In Progress

- ❖ The TK Panel has to be ok with the water quality in the pit lakes before reconnecting to Lac de Gras
  - This will involve continued discussions with the Panel and site visits





# Mine Areas: Open Pits

## Recommendations that could not be Actioned, or were not Applicable

- ❖ Test the growth of water plants around processed kimberlite
  - The processed kimberlite will be approximately 250m below the lake surface, below where sunlight will reach
- ❖ Put fish in the pit lakes to test the water
  - It will be difficult to recapture the fish
- ❖ Stock the pit lakes with bugs
  - Assumed to help clean the water but Diavik has not seen evidence of this



# Mine Areas: Rock Piles

## Completed Recommendations

- ❖ Design the rock piles to look like an esker with slopes for caribou passage and to be as wide and low as possible
- ❖ Make sure to keep the potentially acid generating rock contained within the North Country Rock Pile (NCRP)
- ❖ Design ramps for safe caribou passage
- ❖ Use material from A21 to avoid expanding the South Country Rock Pile (SCRP)
- ❖ Drain the pond at the SCRP – Fall 2017
- ❖ Collect and monitor seepage water



# Mine Areas: Rock Piles

Accepted Recommendations in progress and/or not started yet

- ❖ Revegetate the base of the NCRP
- ❖ Study wind and snow accumulation
- ❖ Design ramps for caribou on the South Country Rock Pile





# Mine Areas: Rock Piles

## Recommendations that will not be Actioned

- ❖ Revegetating the rock piles
  - The plan has changed to begin with a neutral presence to not attract wildlife
- ❖ Create barriers around the North Country Rock Pile to protect wildlife
  - Prefer to have a neutral presence and deter wildlife from the area
- ❖ Create channels for seepage water from the rock piles
  - Natural flow paths in the tundra through marsh areas for natural filtration



# Mine Areas: North Inlet

## Completed Recommendations

- ❖ Discuss the revegetation options for the North Inlet
- ❖ Do not reconnect the North Inlet unless the water and sediments are proven to be clean and the same as Lac de Gras
  - This is part of the closure plan



# Spiritual & Cultural

## Completed Recommendations

- ❖ Youth involvement in the TK Panel
- ❖ Women's involvement in the TK Panel
- ❖ Cultural inclusion and ceremonies
- ❖ Blending western science and TK approaches – knowledge sharing and cross-cultural learning
- ❖ Maintain a tracking sheet for the Panel recommendations
- ❖ Host materials online – EMAB website
- ❖ Provide experts to the TK Panel
- ❖ Host site visits for the TK Panel
- ❖ Include climate change considerations in planning





# Spiritual & Cultural

## Accepted Recommendations in progress

- ❖ Indigenous participation during closure activities
- ❖ TK watcher programs & training opportunities
- ❖ For the TK Panel to review existing monitoring methods to help choose what to monitor or observe

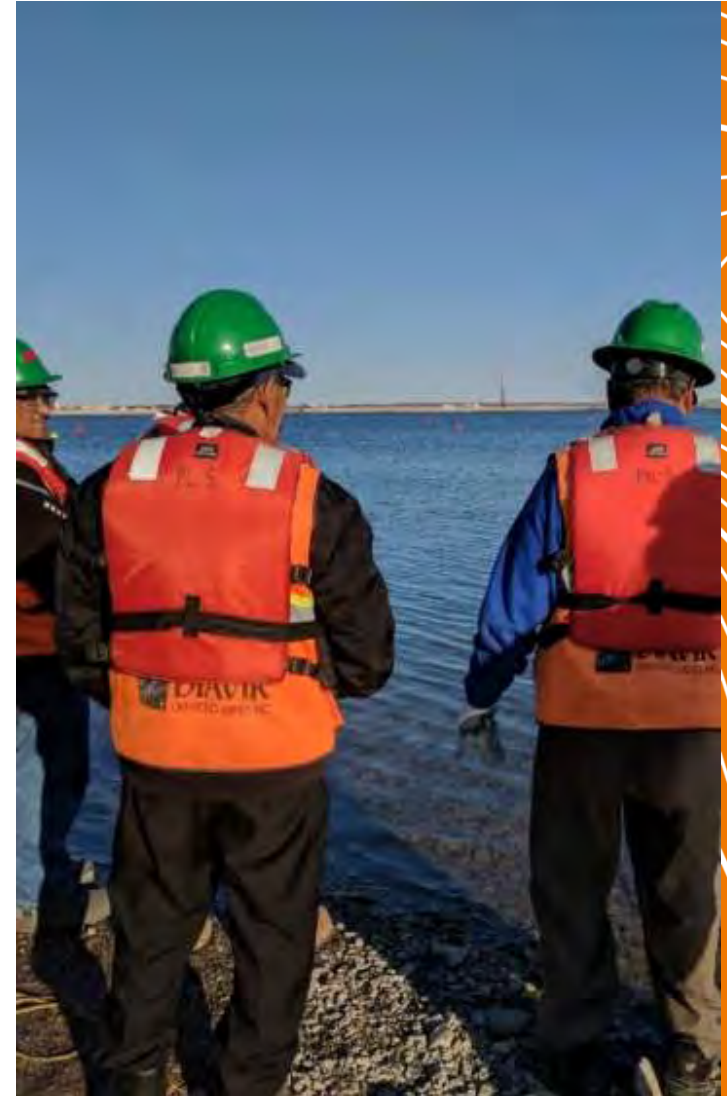


# Spiritual & Cultural

## Accepted Recommendations Not Started

### Activities to occur at closure:

- ❖ Cultural visits and ceremonies at closure (nature of which to be determined by the Panel/community)
- ❖ For Diavik to contribute to healing ceremonies
  - Request to come from community organizations



# Spiritual & Cultural

## Recommendations That Could Not Be Actioned

- ❖ Hosting two panel sessions per year
  - Challenging some years for everyone to be available
- ❖ Testing the growth of water plants with processed kimberlite slimes for the pit lakes
  - The slimes will not be moved into the pit lakes

## Recommendations Not Applicable Directly To Diavik

- ❖ TK Panel members to discuss recommendations with Elders who were unable to attend (Panel members are welcome to informally share recommendations with other community members)
- ❖ Communities working together strengthens all



# Traditional Knowledge Based Observation

## Completed Recommendations

- ❖ Involve Youth and Elders
- ❖ Seasonality input - Monitor waters in late May to early June & in bays, drainage areas and runoff points
- ❖ Include visual observations of the water into water testing
- ❖ Plan for climate change
  - Diavik has modelled site conditions over 100 years in the future to design closure plans to work with those conditions
- ❖ Observe plants, sediments and bugs in pits

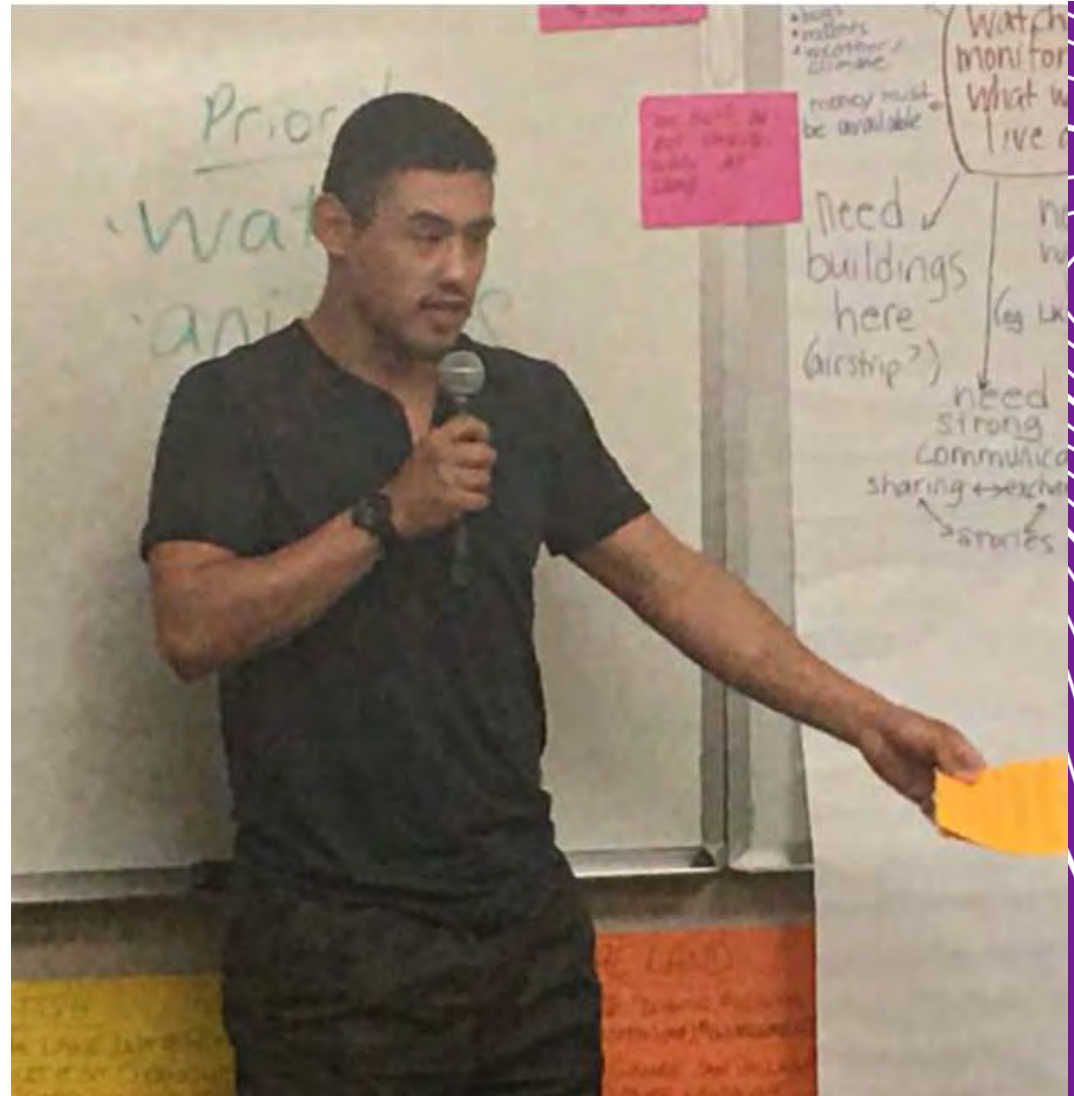




# Monitoring & Traditional Knowledge Based Observation

## Accepted Recommendations In Progress

- ❖ Leave buildings for the Watchers to use (after the mine closes)
- ❖ Assess how wind and water behave on the pit lakes compared to Lac de Gras
- ❖ Explore a long-term monitoring approach
- ❖ Train community members in watching or monitoring during operations, before closure
  - Diavik has commitments for western science-based monitoring (Aurora College, Mine Training Society)
  - **TK Watching training is felt to be more appropriate from the communities**





# Traditional Knowledge Based Observation

## Recommendations In Progress

- ❖ Watching should be done all year, or at a minimum each season
- ❖ Watching should include fish habitat in the pit lakes for fish and the shoreline for wildlife
- ❖ Monitor freeze-up and break-up of contained water areas (pit lakes, dikes)



# Traditional Knowledge Based Observation

## Recommendations in progress

### ❖ Watching project ideas (Session #10):

- What plants are growing on disturbed ground
- Presence of ground squirrels on the East Island
- Health of the shorebirds on the water
- Snow accumulation and natural revegetation around boulders atop the test pile
- Watch and monitor dust impacts on water and plants as an important part of the food chain
- Analyze and determine what types of animal scat are present
- Look at possible impacts on plants, with special consideration for those used for medicine

# Traditional Knowledge Based Observation Program

## Developing a TK based Watcher Program for Closure and Post Closure

- ❖ What else should a TK based Watcher program observe?





## Wrap-Up of Recommendations

### 210 Recommendations

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**81 are completed**

**66 are in progress**

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**14 are going to be  
actioned but have not  
been started**

**28 cannot be actioned**

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**21 not appropriate for  
Diavik to action**

Spreadsheet of the  
recommendations is available on  
the EMAB website



## TK Watching Recommendations - Complete

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
8.26	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Provide opportunity for the TK Panel to view the present shoreline when snow-free to consider further recommendations (in spring).	Panel members have repeatedly expressed the importance of 'seeing with their own eyes'. This Panel session was held in December in Yellowknife, so many members were basing their discussions on memory and hadn't closely looked at the shoreline areas of the pits in the past. In order to confirm their preferences, Panel members would like to visit the shoreline areas within the dike when there is no snow on the ground.
8.4	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Water testing should be done by tasting fresh water and by boiling the water, letting it set overnight and drinking it the following day (observe scum and clarity).	Panel members recognized that not all people may drink tea, and that it would be better to use plain water to taste the lake water quality. In this way, the water is natural and any impurities would be easier to identify. However, the benefit of also boiling the water allows people to see if anything with the water changes after being heated, e.g. has a layer of scum, or materials settle out. It was agreed that people could make tea with the lake water on their own, if that was important to them.
8.5	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Set fish nets on both sides of the island (north and south).	Panel members felt that it is important to capture fish on both sides of East Island and closer to the mine itself. They would like to plan ahead for this for the next AEMP TK Study in 2018.

## TK Watching Recommendations - Complete

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
8.15	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Test water scientifically and not by tasting.	Panel members are uncomfortable with the idea of tasting water, as a way to test water quality, for water that is on the mine site. Panel members noted that scientific sampling is important for water testing, as it tests for things that cannot be seen or tasted. They also noted that visual inspections of the water (in the same areas that science samples would be taken) would be important for community members after closure.
7.13	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Complete the TK literature review report so that it can be used as a guide in the vegetation program and closure plan, and be available to communities.	As previously suggested by the Panel, there is value in compiling the existing TK that has been captured by community or company research in the past. Much of this information was compiled prior to Session 7, but a report was not completed. The Panel would like to see a complete report.
8.32	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Plan for climate change hundreds of years into the future.	There is concern that climate change will affect performance of some mine infrastructure and inadvertently impact the environment, for example by release of contaminated water. As such, Panel members want to make sure that climate change scenarios are considered in closure design and planning work in order to protect the environment long into the future.

## TK Watching Recommendations - Complete

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
12.5	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Ensure scientific tests are done every season and throughout the year to understand the health of the water and to compare water in the pits to water in Lac de Gras. Scientific water testing should include, but not be limited to temperature, turbidity, clarity, colour. The presence of micro-organisms should be measured as well as oxygen levels. Such tests should be done at various depths in the water column as far down as the PK. The results should be regularly shared with the TK Panel.	When it comes to water, the TK Panel discussed the importance of science to first identify if the water is healthy before people would like to test water quality by tasting. People are familiar with scientific water quality monitoring and discussed the importance of measurements to determine whether the water is safe for fish and animals. Small “bugs” in the water are also important for fish and need to be measured to know whether the water is healthy. The TK Panel don’t want the dikes to be breached until there was enough food in the water for them. It is important that scientific testing take place throughout all seasons and at multiple depths in the water column. TK Panel members want to make sure that results are shared widely with community members.
12.14	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Monitor plant life, sediments and bugs in the water within the pits in the spring (after break-up), summer, and fall (before freeze-up) through our own eyes. Combine this with scientific test results. Further discussion is needed to detail this monitoring approach.	In-person and on-the-ground monitoring is important so people can feel comfortable.

## TK Watching Recommendations – In Progress

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
2.5	Renewing Our Landscape, 7 December 2012, pg. 35	Seasonality of monitoring must be taken into consideration when planning for post-closure monitoring.	Land, water and air are the three key areas of concern for Aboriginal people. TK monitoring seasons are: winter for hare, foxes, wolverine, etc; spring for caribou; summer for fish and water; fall for berries in muskeg and plants.
8.3	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	In future programs, document why certain fish are rejected by Elders.	It was noted that one of the participants in the 2015 AEMP TK Study rejected two fish for processing, but the reasons why were not well documented. It would be helpful to capture these reasons in future studies.
8.19	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Annually check for algae growth around shorelines as too much can be an indicator that there is less oxygen for the fish.	Panel members have experience with lakes in their home regions that have changed over the years. Many noted how algae and moss can be helpful in cleaning water, but too much build up of algae, especially along shorelines, may be an indicator that the water is not of good quality for fish. This is something that community members can help to identify through visual inspections of shoreline areas near the mine.



## TK Watching Recommendations – In Progress

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
10.24	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Research or monitoring methods that are offensive to elders (e.g. caribou collars) should lead to getting alternative method advice from elders. Diavik should check with the TK Panel as to whether any aspects of the current monitoring program is offensive and revise them accordingly.	The Panel focuses on closure planning and monitoring, but they are also interested in Diavik's operational monitoring and would like to learn more about monitoring programs, methods and results in order to determine if these are suitable and appropriate from a community perspective.
4.1.6	Checking Nets, 23-25 October 2012, pg.21	Include Aboriginal words or terms in reports as appropriate. Keep wording in reports simple and make summary notes available soon after a meeting.	Some Aboriginal languages include concepts that are very precise and reflect a more complete understanding than what can be translated. Language contains distinct concepts unique to TK so the spiritual premise of certain terms contained within the language can often get lost in translation. Plain language should be used so that all people can understand it, regardless of their language or reading skills. It is important for participants to review their words and make sure they were recorded and/or interpreted correctly while the words are still fresh in participant's minds.

## TK Watching Recommendations – In Progress

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
8.29	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Explore long term monitoring options including how to coordinate and administer an ongoing post-2030 program that continues to integrate TK and science and involves both Elders and youth trained in science. (Consider funding, and if some of the bond can be used).	TK Panel members are very interested in continuing to monitor the land and water in the Lac de Gras area after the mine is closed. Panel members are interested in exploring options for doing such work and determining how best to organize and fund such an initiative. There is a strong interest from the Elders to make sure that the youth of today are the future monitors for this work, which requires early involvement as well as capacity building in scientific and TK environmental monitoring.
9.9	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Contribute to training community monitors in using both traditional knowledge and western science so that common approaches across communities are used and results can be pulled together from many places.	The Panel felt that it is important to support capacity building for community members to actively participate in the closure process, particularly closure monitoring. They recognize that strength in monitoring can be achieved when western science (WS) and TK are conducted together. There is also value to ensuring that the similar techniques and methods are used across industry and communities so that this information is comparable.

## TK Watching Recommendations – In Progress

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
9.11	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Recognizing that Aboriginal communities are committed to their traditional responsibility to take care of the environment, participate with Diavik and other partners (e.g. Dominion Diamonds) to explore ideas and develop capacity to establish a Cumulative Effects Monitoring and Management Station (CEMMS) using the TK camp as a base that has program links to the GNWT Daring Lake Research Station.	The Panel viewed the TK camp as an ideal base for studying the Lac de Gras area after the mine was closed. The GNWT's Daring Lake Research Station is also in a good position to further support such research and the Panel saw value in coordinating efforts with the Government's programs at Daring Lake. In order to achieve this, the Panel identified the need for mines, government and other regulators to work together to determine how best to coordinate and implement a CEMMS (or similarly structured) program.
9.12	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	In partnership with communities and the GNWT, begin planning a joint TK and WS monitoring program that would begin in 2023 to be ready for implementation in 2025 by building on and expanding the current Diavik monitoring program.	Panel members consider intergenerational plans and programs, recognizing that there is a need for long-term monitoring in the Lac de Gras region long after the mining companies are gone. Given that it can take time to coordinate these types of programs, the Panel sees value in starting these discussions now so that plans are in place for when the Diavik mine is closed.

## TK Watching Recommendations – In Progress

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
9.13	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Offer monitor training to provide traditional land users with new skills and techniques to monitor from mine closure through to when Diavik completely leaves the site (expected to be 2030) and beyond for long term monitoring.	The Panel felt that it is important to support capacity building for community members to actively participate in the closure process, particularly closure monitoring. They recognize that strength in monitoring can be achieved when western science (WS) and TK are conducted together.
9.16	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Employ community monitor trainees and ensure they have a meaningful role in the design of various aspects of closure work, including the building of wildlife ramps; the reclamation of the PKC, the North Inlet and contaminated sites; and any re-vegetation work on site.	It is important to the Panel to have community members employed on site and participating in healing the land and ensuring a safe environment for future use by wildlife and humans.
9.17	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Employ and ensure opportunities for high level employment/career advancement of trained community monitors (graduates of the training program) funded by Diavik and/or others. In addition to community members, a minimum of one Elder and one youth from each community should participate in the training program.	It is important that community members have meaningful jobs at the mine, throughout the closure process.



## TK Watching Recommendations – In Progress

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
10.11	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	<p>Some start-up watching projects might look at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- what plants are growing on disturbed ground and why/why not;</li> <li>- presence of ground squirrels on the East Island;</li> <li>- health of the shorebirds on the water (as an indicator for health of water);</li> <li>- snow accumulation and natural revegetation around boulders atop the test pile;</li> <li>- watch and monitor dust impacts on water and plants as an important part of the food chain;</li> <li>- animal scat, this should be part of a TK Watching program;</li> <li>- look at possible impacts on plants, with special consideration for those used for medicine.</li> </ul>	<p>The TK Panel is interested in starting to identify the types of things that are of interest to elders and youth to monitor. They recognize that more time and discussion is needed to build on these ideas and confirm what and how to watch the area, but that it is important to start documenting what has been shared to date.</p>

## TK Watching Recommendations – In Progress

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
10.12	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Pair every adult with a youth monitor. Scientists should also be involved. Consider the TK camp as a good model, bringing elders and youth together with scientists.	The TK Panel members see great value in mentoring youth and advocate for including youth in TK programs wherever possible. The TK Panel recognizes that people learn from one another and respect the different kinds of knowledge that each person contributes. They view this as a good model to carry forward for closure monitoring.
10.13	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Ideally, watching would occur all year round. At a minimum, watching must occur in all seasons.	The land and animals behave differently depending on the season. There are important indicators to watch throughout the seasons and year to make sure that the land and animals are healthy. Panel members are interested in watching programs that would occur across all seasons.
10.14	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Watchers should be trained by trained monitors from existing guardianship programs (e.g. Ni Hat'ni Dene, Tlicho, Dehcho). From there, trained watchers will train new watchers through a pay-it-forward model.	Existing guardianship programs are celebrated as good models from which to learn. The next step will be to determine how best to apply their practices, resources, and support systems. Collaboration and sharing are keys to success.

## TK Watching Recommendations – In Progress

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
10.15	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Be designed for long term watching/monitoring as impacts may take a long time to show up (i.e. a plant may look healthy now but in the future it may not be strong if dust or contaminated water affect it).	Community members understand that nature has great power to heal, but that this can take a long time. The TK Panel wants to be sure that there are plans in place for long term watching and monitoring so that they can be confident that closure was successful and the land is healthy again.
10.16	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Watch and check everything (water, wildlife, birds, bugs, small mammals, plants, weather, etc.).	The TK Panel is interested in starting to identify the types of things that are of interest to elders and youth to monitor. They recognize that more time and discussion is needed to build on these ideas and confirm what and how to watch the area, but that it is but that it is important to start documenting what has been shared to date.
10.17	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Ensure long-term, ongoing and significant funding.	Funding and resources are important to secure when planning for long-term watching programs. The Panel recognizes that more discussions are required to determine how best to secure and maintain funding for this type of work.

## TK Watching Recommendations – In Progress

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
10.18	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Be grounded in strong communication and traditional laws around sharing, exchanging and stories.	Collaboration and sharing are the keys to success. Watching programs should be structured to include opportunities for sharing the rich stories that tell the history of the land and enrich monitoring outcomes. Scenarios that encourage sharing should be strongly supported.
10.19	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Start training for watching programs during mine operations by inviting community members to site, i.e. train-the-trainer program. For example, bring up people to work with Environment dept, starting with one weekend a month and scaling up over time.	The Panel recognizes the benefit of training monitors now in order to carry forward those skills for closure and post- closure monitoring at Diavik and other sites. The Panel is supportive of community monitors that are able to work in both worlds of knowledge - traditional and western scientific.



## TK Watching Recommendations – In Progress

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
10.22	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Diavik should plan to leave some buildings (and possibly the airstrip) to support Watching Programs for this and other mines in the surrounding area.	In order to conduct a watching program in the mine area long after closure, it would be helpful to have some buildings present that could be used for accommodation and monitoring activities. Communities will be interested in visiting and observing the area long after the mines are gone.
11.10	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel wants to monitor how water behaves when placed on PK. They would like to see the PK and water in the A418 as soon as it is safe to do so and when there is a good visual of the material, as well as at regular intervals afterwards.	The TK Panel suggested that the PK should be monitored for a time before the dikes are breached to ensure the PK is as expected.
11.11	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel recommends that they monitor the fish habitat within the pits, shoreline modifications (e.g., ramps) for wildlife as well as the stability of the dikes on a regular and ongoing basis.	The TK Panel suggested that the PK should be monitored for a time before the dikes are breached to ensure the PK is as expected.

## TK Watching Recommendations – In Progress

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
11.12	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel recommends that they monitor freeze-up and break-up within the contained areas (i.e., within the dikes) to see if the formation and melting is any different—with a view towards safety for people and wildlife.	The TK Panel suggested that the PK should be monitored for a time before the dikes are breached to ensure the PK is as expected.
12.7	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	The TK Panel would like Diavik to test water in the pits for at least two years (until the water is deemed good) and compare this to water in Lac de Gras. Water samples will be collected from multiple depths at various times throughout each year and tested according to the AEMP protocols. Taste tests will be done after scientific sampling tells us the water is drinkable where they will watch for smell, clarity (turbidity), temperature, colouration, scum on the water or tea, and water and tea for taste.	The TK Panel agreed that the water and fish must be deemed “safe” from a scientific perspective before any traditional knowledge tasting tests can occur. Watching water according to traditional knowledge is well understood by the TK Panel members who have worked hard to develop protocols being used at the AEMP TK Camp. These protocols should be used for ongoing monitoring on-site both within the pits and outside the dikes in Lac de Gras. Panelists expect that the water within the pits will smell differently when there is PK rather than natural sediments and want to make sure there is enough time for settling to occur.

## TK Watching Recommendations – In Progress

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
12.13	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Install motion activated cameras around the dikes to monitor wildlife activity to see if birds and animals are trying to access pit water. Test animals if possible through noninvasive methods. Any dead animals should be tested for contaminants. Report all findings to communities and the TK Panel.	The TK Panel generally supports monitoring approaches that are gentle and cause the least disturbance to the land, air, water, fish and animals. Innovative and non-invasive monitoring approaches are preferred. Monitoring according to TK can be carried out in ways that minimize disturbance.
12.15	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Develop details of monitoring programs (including training and employment) and action plans for community members. Expand the aquatic effects monitoring program and camp to include the TK Panel and a base for TK monitoring as one step in this plan.	In-person and on-the-ground monitoring is important so people can feel comfortable.

## TK Watching Recommendations – Accepted, Not Started

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
8.12	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Monitor fish spawning areas closely, especially in the SE part of island (i.e. area just south of the pits).	Panel members are concerned about fish spawning in potentially contaminated areas, so they want to know if fish are using the areas close to the mine after closure.
12.12	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Monitor fish from pit lakes according the AEMP protocols, but only taste test them if there is an acceptable comfort level and scientific results confirm that the fish are safe for eating.	
10.20	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Diavik should support and encourage the TK Panel to assess and review existing monitoring methods and results to help us determine what and how we should monitor in the future.	The Panel focuses on closure planning and monitoring, but they are also interested in Diavik's operational monitoring and would like to learn more about monitoring programs, methods and results in order to determine if they are suitable for closure monitoring and, if so, how best to apply these to closure.



## TK Watching Recommendations – Accepted, Not Started

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
11.15	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel would like to see wind behaviour on water within the contained pits/dikes over a period of time (i.e. throughout all seasons).	Concerns were expressed about the effects of wind on the pit areas at closure, particularly nowadays with climate change and winds becoming stronger.
11.16	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel would like to see wind behaviour on Lac de Gras in and around the dikes. [How is the water on the outside of the dikes and breach areas affected by wind?]	Concerns were expressed about the effects of wind on the pit areas at closure, particularly nowadays with climate change and winds becoming stronger.

## TK Watching Recommendations – Not Accepted, Not Applicable

No.	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT
12.11	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Put fish in pit lakes to be monitored, tested and sampled before the dike is completely breached once water is deemed “safe” (i.e., at least 2-6 years of monitoring). If the fish are the same as fish in Lac de Gras according to TK testing (e.g., liver, heart, gills, bladders, etc.), carry out a second stage breach for fish passage.	The TK Panel struggled with deciding whether they considered it respectful and safe to encourage fish to be allowed back into the pits, particularly if they were filled with PK. In the end, the group decided that breaching the dikes for fish would be part of a second phase after people were confident that the water was safe.
10.23	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Diavik should support the development of a ‘best practices’ document that explains the Panel’s approach to integrating TK into mine closure planning.	The TK Panel is proud of their cooperative efforts to ensure that TK informs mine closure planning in a meaningful and transparent way. The TK Panel is interested in summarizing and sharing their knowledge and approach with others, in hopes that others considering projects in the north or elsewhere can benefit either now or in the future.
11.9	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel recommends that their members are present for at least some of the time when the slimes are moved from the PKC into the A418.	The TK Panel suggested that the PK should be monitored for a time before the dikes are breached to ensure the PK is as expected.

## TK Values & Concepts

Traditional Laws	Relationships and rules between humans and nature that are to be followed (when practicing traditional activities)
Symbolism	Ways in which beliefs are represented, and may include ceremonies
Reciprocity	Everything is shared for the greater good
Intergenerational	Everything done today impacts our families in the future
Stewardship	Responsibility to protect the land and its resources
Respect	Essential to demonstrate; providing support and a positive view of all living things and people
Recording Knowledge	Oral tradition/culture that is recognizing an increasing need to formally document historical knowledge
Seasonality	Life flows with the change in seasons
Natural Condition	The preferred state of the environment from a traditional perspective

## TK Values & Concepts

Safety	Traditional practices that protect the land, animals and people
Nature is self-healing	The land and water will heal itself, given the right conditions
Consensus	Traditional leadership that seeks to find agreement
Experiential learning	Learning by observation and by doing
Social	Changing societal values that are influenced by globalization & access





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# Diavik Response to TK Panel Session 13 Recommendations

Traditional Knowledge Panel #15

6 May 2022, Yellowknife



# Response to Session 13 – Vegetation Watching and Monitoring for Closure Recommendations

- 13.1: Complete chemical testing of rainfall at the mine site.
  - Rainfall chemical testing data is available and can be provided.
- 13.2: Hold a future TK Panel Session focusing on current and future vegetation monitoring that involves Diavik scientists, to enable us to comment on their program.
  - Vegetation monitoring was discussed in TKP #14. Closure monitoring will be described in the FCRP.
- 13.3: Ask Rio Tinto Exploration (or anyone operating in area) to watch caribou and record location, numbers and behaviour, back to communities (record or video as much detail as possible around the condition, size, and weight of caribou).
  - DDMI operations record this information for caribou but Rio Tinto Exploration does not have the expertise to complete these operations. Ekati and Diavik both endeavour to collect caribou data in a consistent manner.

# Response to Session 13 – Vegetation Watching and Monitoring for Closure Recommendations

- 13.4: Watch for any new species of plants and animals and report them to communities, if they find them.
  - [DDMI wildlife and vegetation monitoring programs include this.](#)
- 13.5: Diavik and Elders should sample all animal scat from animals close to the mine when it is fresh, to see what animals are eating. Diavik should share the scientific results with TK Panel members.
  - [Caribou scat is evaluated by the GNWT. Other wildlife scat is outside the scope of the program.](#)
- 13.6: Also watch outside of the perimeter of the vegetation plots, add new plots, expand the size of the existing plots, and note any changes to the vegetation occurring over time. Visit the sites in summer to watch those plants, and also check for metals.
  - [Updates to the DDMI vegetation monitoring program will focus on revegetation for closure.](#)

## Response to Session 13 – Vegetation Watching and Monitoring for Closure Recommendations

- 13.7: Diavik should share dust collection results with communities and the TK Panel members, including hard copies.
  - Dust sample results are available annually through the AEMP ([https://wlwb.ca/registry/W2015L2-0001?f%5B0%5D=doc\\_document\\_sub\\_type%3AAEMP%20-%20Annual%20Report&f%5B1%5D=doc\\_document\\_type%3A7.%20Monitoring%20Programs](https://wlwb.ca/registry/W2015L2-0001?f%5B0%5D=doc_document_sub_type%3AAEMP%20-%20Annual%20Report&f%5B1%5D=doc_document_type%3A7.%20Monitoring%20Programs)).
- 13.8: Diavik should share water testing collection results with communities and the TK Panel. The main concern is related to dissolved oxygen.
  - Water sample results, including dissolved oxygen, are available annually through the AEMP ([https://wlwb.ca/registry/W2015L2-0001?f%5B0%5D=doc\\_document\\_sub\\_type%3AAEMP%20-%20Annual%20Report&f%5B1%5D=doc\\_document\\_type%3A7.%20Monitoring%20Programs](https://wlwb.ca/registry/W2015L2-0001?f%5B0%5D=doc_document_sub_type%3AAEMP%20-%20Annual%20Report&f%5B1%5D=doc_document_type%3A7.%20Monitoring%20Programs)).
- 13.9: Diavik should share an update on what species are in the lake, both fish and vegetation.
  - Aquatic resources of Lac de Gras are summarized in CRP version 4.1 section 3, including references to more details ([https://registry.mvlwb.ca/Documents/W2015L2-0001/Diavik%20-%20Closure%20and%20Reclamation%20Plan%20-%20Version%204.1%20-%20Dec%202017\\_19.pdf](https://registry.mvlwb.ca/Documents/W2015L2-0001/Diavik%20-%20Closure%20and%20Reclamation%20Plan%20-%20Version%204.1%20-%20Dec%202017_19.pdf)).

## Response to Session 13 – Vegetation Watching and Monitoring for Closure Recommendations

- 13.10: Diavik should consider all previous TK Panel recommendations related to vegetation.
  - This will be considered in development of the TK Watching Program.
- 13.11: Monitoring should occur with Elders and youth for over 50 years, watching and testing using both TK and science.
  - This aspect of TK watching will be considered in development of the TK Watching Program.





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# Diavik Response to TK Panel Session 14 Recommendations

Traditional Knowledge Panel #15

7 May 2022, Yellowknife

# Processed Kimberlite Containment Cover Recommendations



## Response to Session 14 – PKC Cover Recommendations

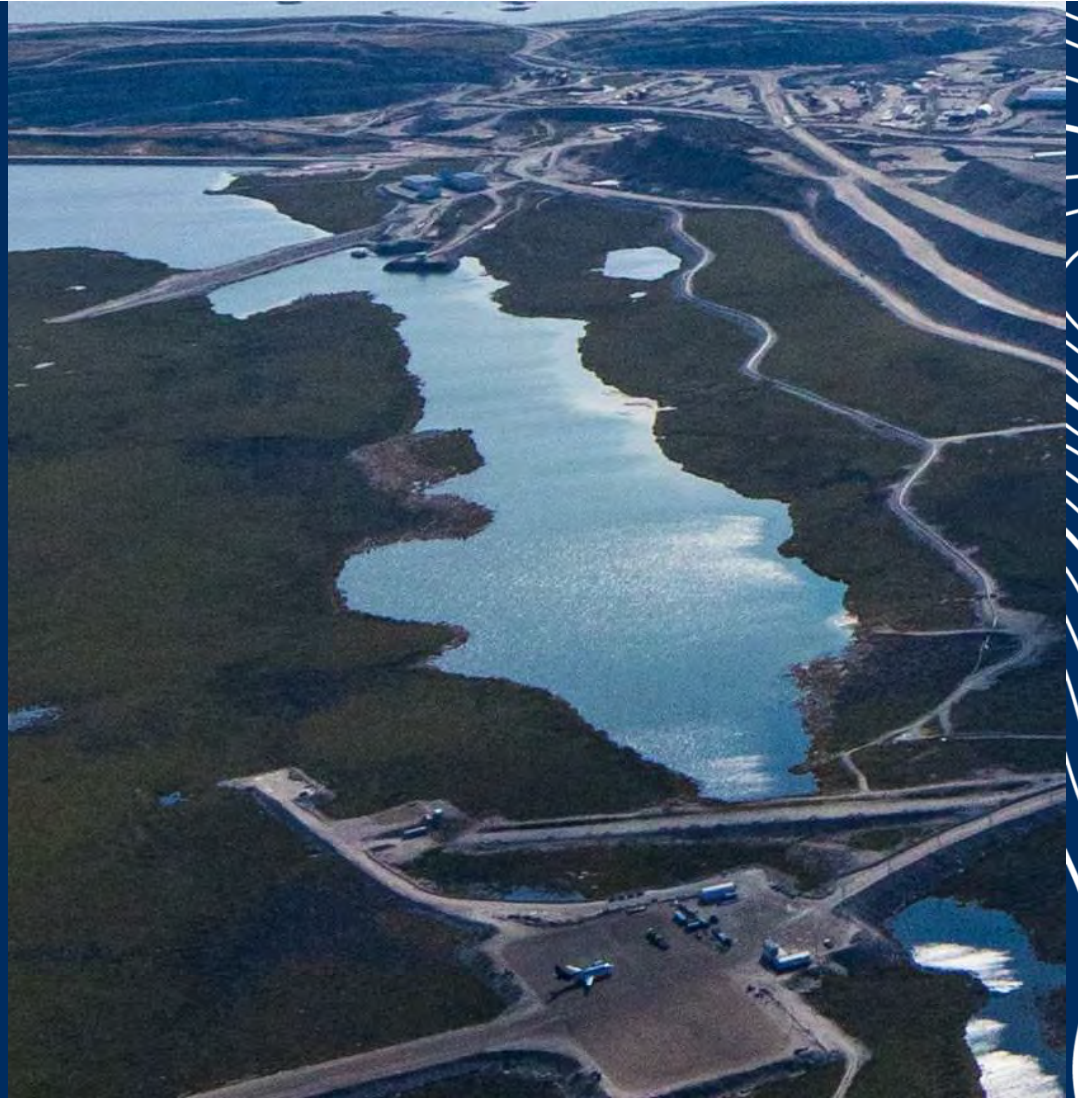
- 14.1: The TK Panel recommends Diavik place large boulders around the processed kimberlite containment cover to keep the animals from going through it.
  - Discuss strategic placement of boulders after PKC cover in place (note existing 40 m high wall on three sides).
- 14.2: The TK Panel recommends Diavik monitor the freezing of the processed kimberlite containment cover by using thermistors
  - This is in engineering design plan.
- 14.3: The TK Panel recommends Diavik continue to monitor the frozen processed kimberlite cover even after the Mine closure to ensure that it is not attracting animals and not leaking into surrounding waterways.
  - This is in engineering design plan.

## Response to Session 14 – PKC Cover Recommendations, continued

- 14.4: The Panel will have further recommendations in June when the PKC Cover can be viewed in person.
  - Diavik looks forward to receiving any further recommendations.



# North Inlet Closure Recommendations



## Response to Session 14 – North Inlet Closure Recommendations

- 14.5: The TK Panel recommends testing the North Inlet for fish before closure.
  - Diavik does not see a benefit in doing this. At closure, fish will be reintroduced through reconnection of the North Inlet to Lac de Gras.
- 14.6: The TK Panel recommends testing the North Inlet water quality before reconnecting it as well as testing it periodically as the Mine is slowly closed.
  - This will be included in the Final Closure and Reclamation Plan (FCRP).
- 14.7: The Panel will have further recommendations in June when the North Inlet can be viewed in person.
  - Diavik looks forward to receiving any further recommendations.

# TK Monitoring (Watching) Recommendations



## Response to Session 14 – TK Monitoring Recommendations

- 14.8: The TK Panel recommends monitoring occur for longer than 10 years, potentially up to 30.
  - This aspect of TK watching will be considered in development of the TK Watching Program.
- 14.9: The TK Panel recommends bringing 10-15 people out on the land over the next 30 years, 1-2 times per year to monitor the site after closure.
  - This aspect of TK watching will be considered in development of the TK Watching Program.
- 14.10: The TK Panel recommends hosting TK camps and fish camps at various locations around Lac de Gras, during different seasons, rather than just at one location.
  - This aspect of TK watching will be considered in development of the TK Watching Program.



## Response to Session 14 – TK Monitoring Recommendations, continued

- 14.11: The TK Panel recommends using simple language as well as scientific language when conducting TK Monitoring Programs.
  - This aspect of TK watching will be considered in development of the TK Watching Program.
- 14.12: The TK Panel recommends inviting pre-existing community-based monitoring programs, such as Ni Hadi Xa, to Diavik as part of the development of the TK Monitoring approach. This should occur every year, potentially every season.
  - This aspect of TK watching will be considered in development of the TK Watching Program.

## Response to Session 14 – TK Monitoring Recommendations, continued

- 14.13: The TK Panel recommends incorporating youth and Elders into the TK Monitoring Program to pass on information, including information about the use of plants as medicine.
  - This aspect of TK watching will be considered in development of the TK Watching Program.
- 14.14: The TK Panel recommends monitoring all animals after closure.
  - This aspect of TK watching will be considered in development of the TK Watching Program.
- 14.15: The TK Panel recommends monitoring dust, vegetation, and berries around Diavik as part of the TK Monitoring Program.
  - This aspect of TK watching will be considered in development of the TK Watching Program.

## Response to Session 14 – TK Monitoring Recommendations, continued

- 14.16: The TK Panel recommends testing the water in Lac de Gras and the sediment at the bottom.
  - This is included in the operational and closure AEMP Programs.
- 14.17: The TK Panel recommends that DDMI look at all the TK Panel Session notes and recommendations and use those as guidance for a document summarizing what will be done for closure and the TK Monitoring Program.
  - This will be considered in development of the TK Watching Program.
- 14.18: The TK Panel recommends hiring Indigenous people who will work at Diavik for 2 weeks on and 2 weeks off as Environmental Monitors.
  - Diavik's preferred hiring is for Northern Indigenous people as Environmental Monitors.

## Response to Session 14 – TK Monitoring Recommendations, continued

- 14.19: The TK Panel recommends including testing of water and fish in the Coppermine River.
  - Testing of water is included in the Operational and Closure AEMP. Fish are only tested in Lac de Gras.



# General Recommendations



## Response to Session 14 – General Recommendations

- 14.20: The TK Panel recommends allowing the water treatment plant to be the last building to close and running all remaining water use on-site through the plant.
  - This is the plan for closure.
- 14.21: The TK Panel recommends providing participants with information before the meeting to ensure enough time for review.
  - Diavik will endeavour to share materials in advance of meetings.
- 14.22: The TK Panel Recommends hosting the fish camp every 2 years rather than every 3 years.
  - This aspect of TK watching will be considered in development of the TK Watching Program.

## Response to Session 14 – General Recommendations, continued

- 14.23: The TK Panel recommends that DDMI fund community based monitoring programs.
  - DDMI will fund a Diavik TK watching program at closure.
- 14.24: The TK Panel recommends that DDMI improve communication with communities about the timing of upcoming events or community meetings and provide information ahead of time for review. Better communication about where to find information about closure is needed.
  - Diavik plans engagements based on the availability of all affected groups. Diavik will endeavour to share materials in advance of meetings and to improve communication of information.

## Response to Session 14 – General Recommendations, continued

- 14.25: The TK Panel recommends that DDMI bring 2 translators per language to TK Panel Sessions.
  - Diavik's policy is to have 2 translators per language when requested for meetings that are longer than half a day.
- 14.26: The TK Panel recommends DDMI present in June's session regarding some examples of similar closure exercises that have occurred at other Mines.
  - DDMI accepts this recommendation but was unable to action for the June session.
- 14.27: The TK Panel recommends leaving some accommodation structures on site.
  - This is being considered in the closure plan. This was partially addressed through Reimaging Closure (<https://lifeafterdiamondmining.com/about>).



# **APPENDIX D**

## **Handouts**

# Traditional Knowledge Panel Recommendations 2012 to 2019

Prepared by Det'on Cho Environmental for Diavik Diamond Mines  
(2012) Inc.  
6-2-2022

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Wildlife

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
1.1	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 19	During July/August, a regular training session should be planned for Diavik staff in ways of properly respecting caribou and other animals	Cross-cultural learning is important when there are two ways of knowing wildlife. Scientists and Environment staff have a different way of doing work and understanding wildlife compared to that of TK holders. Respect for wildlife by TK holders means following the traditional laws that govern the relationship between humans and individual species. A successful monitoring program requires good communication, and this can be challenging in a cross-cultural setting. Strong relationships and a special effort to understand the differences are key to success.	Diavik staff and community assistants participating in the monitoring program undergo onsite and field training prior to initiation of the program. In addition, standard operating procedures are revisited in the field throughout the process. In 2012 and 2013, Diavik invited community Elders and youth to participate in the monitoring program to observe staff performance and evaluate procedures. Minor changes were suggested and are currently being reviewed.	Accepted
1.2	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 19, 25	When elders are brought to site for staff training exercises, youth delegates should also be involved	The youth are living in a changing and complex world now. They have skills that the Elders don't, and they can help in the future. Everywhere that the Elders are called upon to share knowledge or observe changes, the youth should be with them to both learn and share. Teaching stewardship is the responsibility of each generation of elders.	Due to the nature of remote field work, seating capacity may be limited. Adding a youth component to this program limits Elder participation but has generally been supported by the communities.	Accepted
1.3	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 19	The TK-Science camp at the mine site is an important place for developing skills and capacity in cross-cultural caribou monitoring	Elders feel that they can be creative in collaborating with Diavik in a cross-cultural setting that includes observations and knowledge exchanges at the TK/IQ Camp.	Recommendation is outside the scope of the Caribou Behavioural Monitoring SoP. Such opportunities may be considered for future camps, depending upon the focus of the camp.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Wildlife

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
1.4	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 19	The TK-Science camp (known as the CBM Camp) should be moved to a location north of Diavik on Lac du Sauvage. The setup must be in the Aboriginal way, not in a square, so that it's not threatening to the caribou.	In keeping with traditional laws governing relationship with caribou, the camp should be closer to the caribou migration route in order to develop skills and capacity in cross-cultural caribou monitoring. Aboriginal camps on the land have a specific way of being set up, and this should be respected for the set-up of the TK/IQ camp.	The camp site has been established in consultation with community members under a land use permit with the WLWB and will not be relocated. The footprint of buildings and other infrastructure will not be changed significantly, in order to reduce further impacts on the environment.	Not Accepted
1.5	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 19	Monitoring results should be reported back to the communities on a consistent basis.	Participants expressed frustration at the lack of communication (and involvement) with community members relating to caribou monitoring at the mine site to date.	Diavik prepares annual wildlife monitoring reports and an Environmental Agreement (EA) summary report. Additionally, EMAB produces an annual report that summarizes findings and recommendations. Wildlife monitoring updates are also included in annual presentations to communities. Diavik welcomes any further recommendations on how best to ensure that this information reaches individual community members.	Accepted
1.6	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 19	It will be valuable to "check nets" and synthesize what's already been done by Diavik to incorporate TK/IQ into its processes, and document/share lessons learned from these experiences in order to avoid repeating work already done.	Participants felt that they are often repeating themselves (to same and different companies) about many of these topics/concerns. A sign of being respected is 'being heard'; so to have to continually repeat themselves, TK holders feel disrespected. There is value in reviewing what Diavik has done to incorporate TK/IQ into their work.	Unclear if recommendation is addressed to the TK/IQ Panel or Diavik. Diavik is open to sharing information about current and upcoming TK/IQ plans and programs with the Panel for their review. Literature reviews have also been done to determine TK/IQ use for closure planning and vegetation.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Wildlife

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
1.7	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 20	Use pictures and/or other visual tools as part of the form for caribou behavioral scans.	Visual representation of the different behaviours of caribou is likely more accurate and would be helpful for people conducting the scans, especially new hires. People see things through a cultural lens and may interpret what is seen differently.	An effort to take photos displaying various caribou behaviours was undertaken during the 2012 and 2013 monitoring seasons.	Accepted
1.8	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 20	TK holders should be hired on a seasonal basis (i.e. spring through summer) to work with Diavik staff in caribou monitoring.	A TK holder on staff would be helpful in conducting cross-cultural training and monitoring considerations. Tradition requires TK holders to report their observations to each other and to discuss interpretation of those observations.	Most caribou monitoring is completed from August - October. DDMI brings Elders to site to participate in these monitoring programs each year.	Accepted
1.9	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 20	Community meetings are a good way to gather more information on how caribou are doing	This can be a means of extending traditional monitoring practices to include scientists. Both parties are able to share their observations on caribou in a face-to-face meeting. Such an approach provides a good opportunity for community members to learn about what is happening at the mine in relation to caribou. And mine employees have a chance to learn what the communities are seeing in their areas.	Recommendation is outside the scope of the Caribou Behavioural Monitoring SoP. Diavik hosts annual community meetings that include discussions on caribou and other wildlife. Diavik has also coordinated and participated in many wildlife forums to discuss caribou health and management with numerous stakeholders.	Not Accepted
1.10	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 20	Caribou observation logs can also be used by community members when they are on the land	TK holders adapt and are willing to use new tools to carry out their stewardship responsibilities. Harvesters in the community may find the Diavik forms useful, and it may be helpful information for ENR.	Recommendation is outside the scope of the Caribou Behavioural Monitoring SoP. Diavik can supply the field sheets to communities, if requested.	Not Accepted



# TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Wildlife

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
1.11	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 20	Include more behaviors in the list for observation	Participants felt that there were other common behaviours not captured in the list. Community members are more familiar with different caribou behaviours and could help to expand the list and capture more detailed information. The intricate TK about caribou and caribou behaviour is required to inform good decisions. For example, caribou that are scared will often put their nose in the air, sometimes jump and then gallop fast; they are threatened because they do not know what is going on.	Elders from the YKDFN, NSMA and Tlicho participated in caribou behavior surveys in the fall of 2012 and 2013. One additional behavior has been recommended so far: curious (approached).	Accepted
1.12	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 20; Closure Reclamation & Landscape History Interim Report, 19-22 February 2013, pg.6	Include more categories for herd composition and behaviour; involve two individuals nominated by the TK Panel to assist with updating the SOP.	Community members see caribou herds differently than scientists. For example, there are leaders and followers within a herd. Participants felt this would be helpful information to record because the relationship between herd members is important to understand in making decisions to reduce impacts on caribou.	Elders from the YKDFN, NSMA and Tlicho participated in caribou behavior surveys in the fall of 2012 and 2013. No additional categories have been recommended to date.	Accepted
1.13	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 20	Utilize Aboriginal terms/concepts as identifiers	Participants expressed that there are Aboriginal terms that capture caribou activity or behaviour, perhaps more accurately than English terminology for them. Specific terms and concepts contain unique understandings important in governing the way we treat or 'manage' caribou. Specific terms and concepts contain unique understandings important in governing the way we treat or 'manage' caribou. Addition of such terms to the data form may be helpful for community members participating in surveys.	This may be beneficial in the future if caribou behavioural monitoring were to transition to communities.	Not Accepted
1.14	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 20	Injured animals should be sent to ENR for assessment	It would be helpful to have as much information as possible about injured or dead caribou, so that community members are made aware of the cause. TK holders may have other ideas about how to safeguard caribou in the future.	Recommendation is outside the scope of the Caribou Behavioural Monitoring SoP. Diavik has a specific policy and procedures in place for reporting and handling of injured or deceased wildlife, and this involves ENR.	Not Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Wildlife

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
1.15	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 20	Scientists and TK holders analyze dead caribou together	It would be helpful to have as much information as possible about injured or dead caribou, so that community members are made aware of the cause, can share information and learn the way that government analyzes caribou carcasses. TK holders and scientists can exchange ideas on causes and ways to prevent future deaths.	Recommendation is outside the scope of the Caribou Behavioural Monitoring SoP. Diavik has a specific policy and procedures in place for reporting and handling of injured or deceased wildlife. Diavik staff do not analyze dead caribou themselves; it is done by ENR.	Not Accepted
1.16	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 20-23	Four key areas for monitoring: 1. Behaviours 2. Herd composition 3. Caribou health 4. Environmental conditions	These were identified as the key concerns of community members that are all factors considered in the traditional monitoring system; they should be monitored by Diavik. Indicators or signs of herd condition were identified within each of these areas.	Many of the indicators recommended that relate to herd composition, health and environment are more appropriate to be studied by government at a regional level. Behaviours and local conditions are included in the current SoP.	Not Accepted
4.1.1	Checking Nets, 23-25 Oct 2012, pg.8; Closure/Reclamation and Landscape History Interim Report, 23-25 October 2012, pg.8	The TK/IQ Panel should develop a report that more fully represents our knowledge and practice for maintaining the well-being of the caribou. TK assumes that all who live on the land of the caribou have stewardship responsibilities and must take these responsibilities seriously.	Many planning and monitoring gaps exist in relation to caribou and Diavik that have yet to be addressed, such as: Aboriginal monitoring approach (harvest camp), stewardship (traditional caribou laws), movement & cumulative impacts (monitor migration with youth), behaviour and herd composition (response to environmental influences, not just to mining). Preference is to monitor the herds when they are moving, north of Diavik.	Recommendation is to the TK/IQ Panel, however Diavik does not view this as within the mandate of the Panel. The Panel could recommend considerations for planning and observing caribou well-being in relation to the development of closure plans & post-closure monitoring programs.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Wildlife

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
7.3	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Use traditional techniques (e.g. flags, trees) to keep caribou away from areas that are unsafe (both near and far from site).	Caribou will find their old migration routes, but they also make their own trails that change over time. Some participants recognized that it is important to try to encourage caribou away from harmful areas far before they reach the mine site/East Island. Others felt that it would be impossible to prevent animals from coming to the mine site area. Consideration for guiding caribou on the mainland or around the island is a possible topic for future discussions.	DDMI proposes to hold a TK Panel session in the spring 2016 to discuss wildlife monitoring and management at closure. Further discussions to advance this concept would be well suited to this meeting.	Accepted
7.5	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Create safe passage for caribou over the rock pile and through the site following their old migration routes on the north and south east sides (refer to map developed during session).	Panel members felt that it was not necessary to plan too much for the animals safe passage, as caribou will ultimately go where they want and will find the ramp, road or easy way. Preference was to align the path with the old migration route and to keep the slope similar to that of the test pile - as natural as possible. There are some big rocks at the bottom of the rock pile that would need to be covered. It was seen as important to think about the slope in the winter too - how wind will deposit snow - not just when it is snow free. The berms on top of the rock pile were viewed as a barrier to caribou movement, so it would be preferred to remove them and also to remove the berm around the top of the pile.	This is very similar feedback to what community members said at a 2009 workshop relating to caribou at closure. Current closure plans, most notably for the rock pile, generally support this recommendation and the underlying reasons for the recommendation.	Accepted
7.8	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Allow more time for the TK Panel to discuss options for keeping animals away from certain areas (e.g. fencing).	Inuksuit are used to mark caribou crossings (nalluit) in Inuit culture. Other cultures use different techniques as well - e.g. flags, trees. More discussion on traditional and modern methods that can be used to prevent or deter animal presence in certain areas of concern may be useful. For example, some Panel members felt that a fence would be beneficial, while others felt it may be harmful and hard to maintain over time.	DDMI proposes to hold a TK Panel session in the spring 2016 to discuss wildlife monitoring and management at closure. Further discussions to advance this concept would be well suited to this meeting.	Accepted
9.5	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Sponsor or co-sponsor a contest to gather ideas from communities on how to help the caribou get strong.	Many Elders felt that community youth, in particular, may have some good or new ideas on ways to improve caribou numbers, health, spirit, etc that are facing the population. They felt that a contest may encourage people to submit their ideas for consideration.	Diavik views this suggestion as better suited for communities themselves to undertake and then share relevant results with various stakeholders.	Not Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Fish &amp; Water

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
8.3	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	In future programs, document why certain fish are rejected by Elders.	It was noted that one of the participants in the 2015 AEMP TK Study rejected two fish for processing, but the reasons why were not well documented. It would be helpful to capture these reasons in future studies.	Diavik agrees that the reasons why fish are selected or rejected should both be documented.	Accepted
8.4	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Water testing should be done by tasting fresh water and by boiling the water, letting it set overnight and drinking it the following day (observe scum and clarity).	Panel members recognized that not all people may drink tea, and that it would be better to use plain water to taste the lake water quality. In this way, the water is natural and any impurities would be easier to identify. However, the benefit of also boiling the water allows people to see if anything with the water changes after being heated, e.g., has a layer of scum, or materials settle out. It was agreed that people could make tea with the lake water on their own, if that was important to them.	Diavik supports the water quality testing method that is preferred by TK holders. Any change to methods used should be communicated and documented during the planning phase of the 2018 AEMP TK Study.	Accepted
8.5	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Set fish nets on both sides of the island (north and south).	Panel members felt that it is important to capture fish on both sides of East Island and closer to the mine itself. They would like to plan ahead for this for the next AEMP TK Study in 2018.	Nets can be set in a variety of locations, and Diavik supports the idea of determining where best to set nets during the planning phase of the 2018 AEMP TK Study. However, weather conditions may limit the ability to access certain areas as safety rules for site restrict boat travel if winds exceed 15 knots.	Accepted
8.6	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Ensure two Elders and two youth from each group attend future camps and meetings.	Panel members expressed that having young people participate in the AEMP TK Study, meetings and monitoring is critical for effective monitoring in the future. Having two young people from each community present increases their comfort level, as many are shy, and helps to make sure that the Elders are properly cared for. Members recognized that they could help support this process by talking with their organizations and encouraging them to find youth to attend.	It would be very beneficial to have TK Panel members assist in identifying and recruiting youth to participate in TK programs. The TK camp footprint is small and space is limited to what can be supported with existing beds/tents and cooking facilities. Most community organizations can send 4 people to the camp and this is usually 2 Elders, 1 youth and 1 interpreter. Should an interpreter not be required, Diavik would consider having 2 youth from the community attend.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Fish &amp; Water

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
8.7	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Sample fish and water from the Narrows (In both LDG and LDS).	Concerns over future development of the Jay Pipe in Lac du Sauvage was a driver for Panel members to recommend sampling water and fish from the area around the Narrows (between LDS and LDG) as part of the AEMP TK Study.	The current area identified for fishing in LDG includes the area of the lake below the Narrows. For safety reasons, Diavik would like to avoid taking boats up the Narrows. Any concerns or interest in sampling LDS in relation to the Jay Pipe should be directed to Ekati.	Not Accepted
8.8	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Consider additional water sampling locations from different areas.	At closure, or with future development, community members may want to add water sample locations to the AEMP TK program.	Water samples can be taken in a variety of locations, and Diavik supports the idea of determining where best to obtain samples during the planning phase of the 2018 AEMP TK Study. However, weather conditions may limit the ability to access certain areas as safety rules for site restrict boat travel if winds exceed 15 knots.	Accepted
8.10	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Focus water quality monitoring on the NCRP.	The NCRP has been identified as one of the main concerns of Panel members who feel that climate change may affect its integrity and release contaminated water into the environment. As such, Panel members want to make sure that water from the pile is monitored for quality.	Many stakeholders are interested in the performance and integrity of the rock pile, as well as the quality of water seeping from the pile. As such, long-term water monitoring plans would be incorporated into the development of the post-closure monitoring program.	Accepted
8.12	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Monitor fish spawning areas closely, especially in the SE part of island (i.e. area just south of the pits).	Panel members are concerned about fish spawning in potentially contaminated areas, so they want to know if fish are using the areas close to the mine after closure.	Community members could monitor spawning areas at a variety of locations in LDG, and Diavik supports the idea of determining where best to monitor during the planning phase of post-closure TK studies.	Accepted



# TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Fish & Water

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
8.13	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Monitor and test water in pits and around East Island regularly.	Panel members were concerned with pit water quality once the pits were refilled with water because of potential contaminants. It is recommended to sample the water frequently and watch for wildlife using the water (drinking, swimming). If wildlife avoid water, there could be a concern about the water quality. Similarly, other areas around the mine site should also be monitored for water quality where water can run off into Lac de Gras.	Diavik currently monitors water quality around East Island and this practice would be incorporated into a post-closure monitoring program, along with open pit water quality. Incorporating a TK perspective of observing wildlife using the water is supported as part of a post-closure monitoring program.	Accepted
8.14	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Regularly stock on-island pond water with bugs to improve water quality.	Many Panel members identified that bugs in the water and on the bottom of lakes are beneficial to fish and the environment. Their continued presence is also an indicator of good water quality. Adding bugs to areas that were previously disturbed could help to reclaim those areas.	Diavik is interested in this idea and plans to explore the feasibility of incorporating this method into closure plans.??	Not Accepted
8.15	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Test water scientifically and not by tasting.	Panel members are uncomfortable with the idea of tasting water, as a way to test water quality, for water that is on the mine site. Panel members noted that scientific sampling is important for water testing, as it tests for things that cannot be seen or tasted. They also noted that visual inspections of the water (in the same areas that science samples would be taken) would be important for community members after closure.	Diavik currently monitors water quality around East Island and this practice would be incorporated into a post-closure monitoring program. Incorporating a TK perspective of visual observations of the water is supported as part of a post-closure monitoring program. It is Diavik's hope that community members will be the ones taking scientific samples and observing the water themselves, at the same time.	Accepted
8.16	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Regularly measure heavy metals all around island.	Panel members were concerned with water quality around the island, largely in respect to animals consuming it and water from the island entering the lake. Metals can be a concern because of equipment and infrastructure that were used for the mine.	Diavik currently monitors metal concentrations in water quality around East Island and this practice would be incorporated into a post-closure monitoring program.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Fish & Water

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
8.17	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Monitor water in late May and early June as these are critical times (i.e. melt).	Panel members know from experience that spring thaw produces the greatest amount of water that would runoff the island and into the lake over a short period of time. The volume can also pick up a lot of dirt and material from the ground and transport it to the lake. Therefore it is important to monitor water quality during this time, in addition to regular sampling.	Diavik currently monitors water quality around East Island, including during freshet, and this practice would be incorporated into a post-closure monitoring program. Incorporating a TK perspective of visual observations of the water is also supported during this time of year. It is Diavik's hope that community members will be the ones taking scientific samples and observing the water themselves.	Accepted
8.18	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Regularly measure water quality in all bays, drainage and run-off.	Panel members know from experience that water runs off the island and into the lake, taking many materials from the land along with it. Therefore it is important to monitor water quality in runoff and in areas that receive the runoff.	Diavik currently monitors water quality around East Island and in Lac de Gras, and this practice would be incorporated into a post-closure monitoring program.	Accepted
8.19	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Annually check for algae growth around shorelines as too much can be an indicator that there is less oxygen for the fish.	Panel members have experience with lakes in their home regions that have changed over the years. Many noted how algae and moss can be helpful in cleaning water, but too much build up of algae, especially along shorelines, may be an indicator that the water is not of good quality for fish. This is something that community members can help to identify through visual inspections of shoreline areas near the mine.	Diavik currently monitors water quality around East Island and in Lac de Gras, and this practice would be incorporated into a post-closure monitoring program. Incorporating a TK perspective of visual observations for algae in the water is also supported. It is Diavik's hope that community members will be the ones taking scientific samples and observing the water themselves.	Accepted

# TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Fish & Water

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
11.4	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	TK holders know that fish generally go where there is food (nutrients) and oxygen so they are unlikely to go to the depth where PK would be.	When considering filling the underground and pit with PK, Diavik is interesting in learning from the Panel how far from the surface of the water the PK should be filled, if that option is preferred and approved. The Panel discussed at length what this level might be and did not come to a consensus (6 to 100m).	Diavik agrees	Not Accepted
11.5	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The Panel would like additional scientific research to see what the effects of PK (ingestion) might be on fish specific to Lac de Gras.	Panelists were particularly interested in knowing whether PK would affect fish and water, and expressed significant concern that fish might ingest PK or that PK may affect fish gills. Diavik presented results from the PK toxicology study that found that PK does not contaminate water or chemically harm fish.	If Diavik receives approval to deposit processed kimberlite in mine workings then additional toxicological testing will be done on pore water collected from the deposited PK. There is no expectation that particulate PK will occur in the surface 40m where fish live.	Accepted
11.6	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	If PK were to go in any mine area, the Panel requests an opportunity to learn more about the depth of water for fish habitat to cover PK (TK and western science).	When considering filling the underground and pit with PK, Diavik is interested in learning from the Panel how far from the surface of the water the PK should be filled, if that option is preferred and approved. The Panel discussed at length what this level might be and did not come to a consensus (6 to 100m).	Diavik's water license amendment to permit PK to mine workings has been referred to Environmental Assessment. A decision by the review board is expected by the fall of 2019. If approved, Diavik has committed to a water cover greater than 50m.	Accepted
12.9	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Set nets for fish testing near the dikes in Lac de Gras to help get baseline information on current fish health and continue once the dikes are breached to compare.		Baseline information existing. Slimy sculpin testing just outside N. Inlet dike every 3 years - done through AEMP. Based on modelling, do not expect impacts outside of pit lakes.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Fish & Water

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
12.11	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Put fish in pit lakes to be monitored, tested and sampled before the dike is completely breached once water is deemed "safe" (i.e., at least 2-6 years of monitoring). If the fish are the same as fish in Lac de Gras according to TK testing (e.g., liver, heart, gills, bladders, etc.), carry out a second stage breach for fish passage.	The TK Panel struggled with deciding whether they considered it respectful and safe to encourage fish to be allowed back into the pits, particularly if they were filled with PK. In the end, the group decided that breaching the dikes for fish would be part of a second phase after people were confident that the water was safe.	Challenges associated with collecting test fish in pit lakes.	Not Accepted
12.12	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Monitor fish from pit lakes according the AEMP protocols, but only taste test them if there is an acceptable comfort level and scientific results confirm that the fish are safe for eating.		Agreed	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Landscape &amp; Re-Vegetation

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
1.0	A Way of Life, 25 October 2012, pg. 9	Ensure that any caribou trails are clean and clear of debris.	TK provides insights into caribou needs. Caribou are really sensitive about their feet and knowledge passed down over generations tells that it is important to make sure that any areas where caribou travel are clean so that their feet are well taken care of. From Renewing Our Landscape: Caribou feet are really soft so they prefer to travel on sand and eskers, and sometimes hills. Sand is really important. Soft sand can be used to cover jagged rock at water crossings so that caribou can get into and out of the water safely.	Additional information on what is considered 'clean' is needed in order for Diavik to implement such a recommendation when designing caribou trails for post-closure use. e.g. TK Panel members have discussed the possibility of using fine PK as sand along wildlife access areas (Session 6), but Diavik would need to evaluate the properties of PK in relation to animal health before determining if its use is suitable for caribou trails.	Accepted
1.17	A Way of Life, 25 October 2012, pg. 17	A monitoring program that includes (western) science and TK/IQ is the most practical and preferred approach.	Provide an opportunity to continue practicing and integrating different ways of knowing and learning from each other. The mine's presence makes it necessary to develop cross-cultural ways of learning and sharing knowledge. Need to be creative in collaborating with Diavik. A successful program requires good communication and strong relationships.	The TK/IQ Panel is Diavik's preferred method to consider and develop closure monitoring options that incorporate science and TK/IQ. Work to develop trust and communication protocols with the Panel and communities is a part of this approach.	Accepted



## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Landscape &amp; Re-Vegetation

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
1.18	A Way of Life, 25 October 2012, pg. 24	Work with Aboriginal knowledge holders to investigate and experiment with the possible use of deflection zones (e.g. 20 miles away from the mine and another closer to the mine), based on knowledge of migration routes that may help to guide caribou movements away from the mine.	Humans do not control nature, but must take steps to provide for caribou needs when nature has been disrupted. There is no way that you can keep an animal out of its migrating route. Its either going north or south, and they follow different routes. They will go over anything in their path. Traditionally, spruce and other markers such as inuksuit have been used to direct caribou to certain areas. These could be used to try and reduce risks and stress on animals. If they are in a straight line, caribou will follow them and they won't go in between the markers, even if there is a large gap. From Renewing Our Landscape: East Island is a shelter for young and injured caribou; they get to it by swimming along the channel (on the north side of the island). South of the lake is jagged rock where caribou could get injured. The east side of the lake is better; there is a sandbar, muskeg and rocks and its good for caribou migration.	Current mine activity levels appear to be sufficient to deter caribou from visiting East Island. Methods such as this may be effective as the mine transitions to closure and post-closure, depending on wildlife use preferences identified for mine site areas by community members.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Landscape &amp; Re-Vegetation

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
1.19	A Way of Life, 25 Oct 2012, pg. 25; Closure Reclamation & Landscape History Interim Report, 19-22 February 2013, pg.6	Ensure that TK/IQ knowledge that has been shared in the past is incorporated into future planning, specifically in relation to caribou and vegetation.	Early work that was done for Diavik's Environmental Impact Statement and other planning processes included knowledge about caribou that should be reviewed and used. Include a review of Elder site visits and best practices from the Golder Associates literature review.	Diavik is interested in incorporating historical information on caribou and other areas of the environment from the companies documents, as well as external sources such as the West Kitikmeot Slave Study and community TK archives, particularly with respect to mine closure planning. The literature review that was completed by Golder Associates was a first step in identifying the type of information that is available to the public.	Accepted
2.5	Renewing Our Landscape, 7 December 2012, pg. 35	Seasonality of monitoring must be taken into consideration when planning for post-closure monitoring.	Land, water and air are the three key areas of concern for Aboriginal people. TK monitoring seasons are: winter for hare, foxes, wolverine, etc; spring for caribou; summer for fish and water; fall for berries in muskeg and plants.	Diavik is interested in further exploring ideas for closure monitoring with communities. Seasonality should be accounted for in these discussions.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Landscape &amp; Re-Vegetation

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
3.4	Renewing Our Landscape, 7 December 2012, Appendix D, pg.14; Closure Reclamation & Landscape History Interim Report, 19-22 February 2013, pg.5	Leave the airstrip intact with one or two small buildings nearby; do not revegetate it.	Excellent infrastructure for the north as an emergency landing strip for aircraft. A small building can provide emergency shelter, or shelter for those using the area for hunting or fishing.	Maintenance and liability issues are the key challenges with leaving the airstrip and/or a small building after closure. Diavik would be open to Transport Canada or another party acquiring this airstrip. Alternatively, Diavik would consider leaving the airstrip intact (no reclamation, no on-going maintenance/liability), were this to be preferred by communities & approved by the Board.	Accepted
4.1.2	Checking Nets, 23-25 October 2012, pg.18; Closure/Reclamation and Landscape History Interim Report, 23-25 October 2012, pg.8	Diavik should carry out and make public a review of its use of TK/IQ in its environmental plans and programs. This review should document the successes and lessons learned from TK/IQ studies, and what changes or improvements in adaptive management can be attributed to TK/IQ.	Key concerns in relation to this recommendation are whether Diavik is doing what they said they would do, and community members are concerned with repeating themselves over the years without seeing any results from their suggestions. Community members feel that Diavik needs to demonstrate their use of TK, in respect to the Elders.	DDMI had a report prepared by Golder Associates titled "Literature Review of Traditional Knowledge Related to the Resource Sector - July 2011". Beyond this, DDMI does not feel that it is necessary to produce a separate report that documents where TK/IQ has been incorporated into its past processes. Many of these initiatives were established during the early years of the mine and it would be difficult to effectively represent the knowledge and provide lessons learned.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Landscape & Re-Vegetation

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
5.4	Closure Reclamation & Landscape History Interim Report, 19-22 February 2013, pg.5	Smooth slopes on the sides of roads and the airstrip so that they are less steep, and remove large boulders from these areas. Scarify engineered surfaces such as the camp areas, plant site, roads and laydowns. Revegetate to support biodiversity.	Consider revegetating the sides of the airstrip and roads so that they can filter runoff, but avoid revegetating the surfaces. Keep all roads to the pits and airstrip intact to allow access for monitoring. Sides of old roads and the airstrip should be made less steep and revegetated to filter runoff. They should be relatively smooth and free of boulders so that wildlife can move over the areas safely.	The current closure plan supports this recommendation and includes contouring of roads, restoration of drainage, surface scarification and revegetation. Some travel routes will be planned, connecting key areas of the old mine footprint for human and wildlife travel.	Accepted
5.5	Closure Reclamation & Landscape History Interim Report, 19-22 February 2013, pg.5	Remove equipment, unused buildings, pipes, toxic materials and non-biodegradable items from the island.	Panel members refer to traditional practices of always leaving a clean campsite and respecting the land for your use. Buildings, equipment and materials no longer needed should be redistributed to Aboriginal communities if requested.	An approved landfill exists at Diavik (within the rock pile) and will continue to be used for non-hazardous waste materials. Hazardous materials are backhauled off site on the winter road. An evaluation of building or equipment condition would need to be conducted in advance of providing any materials to communities; if the materials were deemed suitable, Diavik would be interested in communities acquiring such items.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Landscape &amp; Re-Vegetation

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
7.1	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Do not disturb new areas and protect natural vegetation areas that exist on the Island (with the exception of planned development areas for A21, the rock pile for A21 and any future closure work that involves covering natural vegetation in order to flatten slopes for safe wildlife passage).	<p>Panel members were able to visit areas of natural vegetation and most were happy with how these looked, and recognized the importance of preserving these, where possible. Comments: "I was looking for dust on berries and willows, but I saw that they were pretty clean; seeing it first hand helps." "The berries and leaves in the undisturbed areas look the same as before." "I feel peaceful and good after going out on site; I saw a fox and wolf and ground squirrels." " There were caribou trails at the south side of the airstrip; it looks good. Its good to see the land looks healthy."</p> <p>Panel members also recognized that it is important to balance preservation of natural vegetation with making sure that wildlife can pass through the site safely. For example, participants felt it more important to widen the base of any future rockpile associated with the A21 development, in order for the pile to be lower and less steep for wildlife movement.</p>	DDMI understands and respects community interests in protecting areas of natural vegetation that remain on the mine site property while recognizing where it may be beneficial to lose some natural areas in order to promote the safe passage of wildlife through the mine property. The Panel has provided clear guidance on where and when it is appropriate to cover natural vegetation and this aligns well with DDMI's closure plan.	Accepted



## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Landscape &amp; Re-Vegetation

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
7.2	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Study vegetation east and north of the Island to understand good caribou habitat.	Participants felt that tundra vegetation is very powerful; like there is something underneath that is helping it. They noted the importance of moisture for growth. Many participants felt that the environment is powerful, that nature will heal itself and that vegetation at the mine site will grow again on its own. Others felt that what has happened on East Island is not natural, so it cannot be left to Nature alone to heal; Nature needs help in this case. Still others noted that climate change will result in differences; e.g. willows are taller now at places where Panel members used to camp and different species are coming to the north (which Elders predicted in the past). Some participants thought that vegetation on the East Island is different from the mainland (and that this could be from human activity, introduced species or climate change).	Since 2010, DDMI has incorporated a TK component to the lichen study that is conducted on East Island and the mainland. The main focus of the TK component of this study is to identify plants and habitat areas that are used by caribou in various locations on the tundra, up to 40 km (25 mi) away from the mine. This study is done every 3 years and is next planned for 2016.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Landscape & Re-Vegetation

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
7.4	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Test both natural vegetation and seeded plants (re-vegetation plots) for toxicity.	Vegetation itself was not seen as a concern; the worry is about hazards and concerns for caribou if they eat the plants. Panel members want to be sure that vegetation on the mine site is safe to eat and similar to that farther away on the mainland. Many participants noted that wildlife smell food before they eat it; they may roam around but not eat. Caribou are smart and this is an indication that they know when plants are not healthy for them.	This is planned as part of the re-vegetation study being conducted with the University of Alberta (U of A). Field samples to test for plant toxicity were planned for summer 2015, but the amount of plant material available to sample was too low. U of A plans to conduct greenhouse studies using the same materials and native plants to test for toxicity in the short term, as they can grow plants quicker under controlled conditions. They will then wait until the plants in the plots at the mine are large enough to sample and test as well, so that we have results from both the lab and field.	Accepted
7.6	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Use fine crushed rock on passage-ways to protect the feet of the caribou (similar to what is on the sides of the airstrip right now – August 2014).	Participants noted that caribou are the most important species to look after and that they must be respected. From 1.0 (above): Caribou are really sensitive about their feet and knowledge passed down over generations tells that it is important to make sure that any areas where caribou travel are clean so that their feet are well taken care of.	Diavik will evaluate options for crush size on caribou passage ways. A very fine crush, such as that at the airstrip, may not be possible. However, participants noted that the test pile slope material was also considered safe for passage. DDMI will use the surface of the test pile slope to guide final surface material design for caribou passage ways.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Landscape &amp; Re-Vegetation

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
7.9	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Create slopes on the sides of roads similar to that on the test pile to support safe travel for animals, and use crushed rock (like at the airstrip) on the surface.	All Panel members showed a clear preference for road reclamation that included a relatively flat top with downward sloping sides at a low angle. The material preferred for use in reclaiming such areas is crushed gravel. It was recognized that natural revegetation may be lost by pushing out the sides of roads in order to ease the slope, but this was seen as an overall positive because it allowed safe passage for wildlife.	The Panel's preferred design for roads at closure is supported. Preference for top surface is to be similar to test piles rather than placing additional crushed gravel.	Accepted
7.10	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Transplant a variety of natural 'tundra mats' and compare them to seeded test plots; this will help natural recovery by maintaining the biodiversity of the area.	The re-vegetation plots were visited and Panel members found it interesting to see the different plants that were growing there (e.g. grasses) when compared to the tundra beside the plots. Many also felt that there seemed to be little vegetation given that it had been 10 years. Researchers explained that growing grass allows the soil to build (nutrients, moisture, etc.) and is the first phase in helping other natural tundra plants to then establish. Panel members felt that there could be benefit in taking natural 'tundra mats' from areas being impacted by mine development (e.g. future A21 rock pile area) and re-planting them in re-vegetation areas.	Diavik initially planned to try this approach in the re-vegetation plots established in 2004. However, this approach requires access to an area planned to be disturbed (to take "tundra mats") while at the same time having areas available that require re-vegetation. This situation has not been identified. Currently DDMI does not see an opportunity for this approach.	Not Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Landscape &amp; Re-Vegetation

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
7.11	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Use the natural tundra mat to guide plant selection to ensure natural balance.	Similar to recommendation 7.2, it is seen as beneficial to "learn from Nature's quilt" and study the plants that grow together in various areas.	The focus for re-vegetation studies to date is to utilize native plants from 'nature's quilt'. The goal for re-vegetation is to establish primary growth (such as grasses) that help to grow soil nutrients, which then allows plants from the surrounding tundra to move in and establish. In this way, Diavik helps to promote growth while allowing for natural processes and plants to occur over time.	Accepted
7.12	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	When using fertilizers, use natural local fertilizers like droppings from local animals. The question of treated human sewage needs to be revisited.	Participants noted how caribou droppings have often resulted in better plant growth at traditional camp sites or other areas of the tundra. It was felt that use of such natural fertilizers may be beneficial in the re-vegetation work that Diavik will be doing. Participants were not sure how they felt about using treated human sewage as a fertilizer - a product that is readily available on site and has been used with some success in the re-vegetation test plots. Panel members would like to learn more about what is in the treated sewage before deciding on whether this is an acceptable fertilizer.	Diavik is interested in using treated human sewage waste as fertilizer, given that it is available on site and considered safe to use from a health perspective. The plan is only to use this material as fertilizer during the first couple of years after closure, as it promotes plant growth in the early stages of use and then loses its effectiveness over time. Local animal droppings would only be considered long-term, natural fertilizer and its use would not be a planned activity.	Not Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Landscape & Re-Vegetation

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
7.15	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	The re-vegetation maps developed in this session are not yet complete and more time needs to be spent discussing and finalizing these.	Participants worked hard to classify various areas of the site in terms of zones for which they would prefer to 1) deter wildlife use, 2) encourage plant growth or 3) engineer areas of safe passage or use for wildlife. The map developed by the women during a break out session was the most supported approach to date, but Panel members felt that this requires more discussion at both the Panel and the community levels.	Diavik is grateful for the maps developed at this session and views these as a useful tool for discussions with community members, community organizations, regulators and the TK Panel.	Accepted
7.16	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	The TK Panel would like to use maps that show the TK of traditional caribou migration routes as the basis for evaluating the “big picture” and identifying areas for sloping (modification) on East Island at closure.	Panel members recognized that it would be helpful to have access to some of the early work produced prior to mine development that identified the traditional trails used by caribou and identified by Elders during the Environmental Assessment. Participants felt that it would be useful to compile that information onto a map that could then be marked up to show the 3 types of zones to be considered for animal use of the mine area after closure ( deter wildlife use, encourage plant growth or engineer areas of safe passage or use for wildlife).	DDMI proposes to hold a TK Panel session in the spring of 2016 to discuss wildlife monitoring and management at closure. Further discussions to advance this concept would be well suited to this meeting.	Accepted



## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Landscape &amp; Re-Vegetation

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
8.1	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Maintain current TK camp site until at least 2018	Community members prefer a more traditional approach to spending time on the land. The connection to the land that can be felt at the camp is stronger than what people experience at the mine site, given all the rules and limited ability to be outside. The connection to the land supports each AEMP TK Study participant and lends to a feeling of family and a willingness to share knowledge, which contributes to the success of the program.	DDMI understands and respects community members' desire to continue to hold the AEMP TK Study at the TK camp site. DDMI agrees that the camp provides a more authentic experience and results in better information being shared. The current lease for the TK Camp area expires in May 2017. DDMI plans to renew the lease and currently supports holding the 2018 AEMP TK Study at the camp. DDMI would then re-evaluate plans for the TK camp after the 2018 session.	Accepted
8.2	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Consider options to donate camp facilities to people traveling to LdG after the mine closes.	TK Panel members are very interested in continuing to monitor the water and fish in the Lac de Gras area after the mine is closed. Leaving the camp in place would provide them with a base from which to do this. Communities would appreciate the camp facilities and supplies being "sold" (\$1) or donated to a community organization or coordinating body that would oversee such work. Alternatively, if it is not possible to keep the camp intact, Daivik should consider leaving a tent frame in place for travellers that may need emergency shelter.	DDMI prefers not to leave the camp facilities in their current location, as the preference is to close the camp, reclaim the land and relinquish the lease. DDMI would consider 'selling' or donating the camp equipment to community organizations or a coordinating body, pending legal review, for their own use. The mine site itself is only a short distance away and is likely to have one or two buildings left behind after closure that could be used for emergency shelter.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Landscape &amp; Re-Vegetation

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
10.10	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRIP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	<p>Consider alternative uses for A21 material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cover the Processed Kimberlite Containment (PKC) area after removing slimes.</li> <li>- Assuming the slimes are gone, slope the south face/wall between the NCRP and the north end of the PKC to allow for caribou movement.</li> <li>- Extend the west end of the NCRP and slope it for caribou.</li> <li>- Cover areas that may have been contaminated after clean-up like the hydro-carbon containment area.</li> <li>- Smooth edges of roads, airport and building areas</li> </ul>	The Panel applies their traditional approach of respecting everything nature provides and being resourceful. The 'waste' rock supplied by mining activities in A21 should be used wherever possible, rather than simply being discarded into a pile on the tundra. In the Panel's view, if closure plans for the PKC area change (e.g. dry vs. pond), the suggestions relating to access to this area may also change.	Diavik is planning to use A21 material for closure, including some of the items identified by the Panel. Details for each area have yet to be finalized, and we commit to continue updating and discussing this with the Panel as closure plans progress.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: North Inlet

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
7.14	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Relating to re-vegetation, the North Inlet requires further discussion in terms of it being a no go zone, replanting zone or encouraging zone for wildlife.	The men and women had separate break out sessions to develop their ideas on how best to manage various areas of the mine after closure. Many of their ideas were similar, but the suggestions for the North Inlet differed greatly. Panel members recognized that more information is needed from Diavik relating to the water quality and closure plan for the North Inlet pond, before a decision can be made on vegetation and wildlife access.	Diavik is grateful for the maps developed at this session and views these as a useful tool for discussions with community members, community organizations, regulators and the TK Panel. Further information relating to the North Inlet water quality and closure plan will be planned for a future TK Panel session.	Accepted
9.24	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Do not reconnect the North Inlet, open pits and PKC area with the lake/land; keep dams and dikes intact unless the water and sediments in those areas is proven to be clean and the same as Lac de Gras.	The Panel members would prefer that areas with the potential for contaminating Lac de Gras waters or fish (e.g. North Inlet) remain separate from the rest of the lake. Similarly, the dam around the PKC should remain in tact unless the area would not pose a risk of contaminating the land or animals surrounding it. In order for the Panel to recommend or support plans to reconnect these areas back to Lac de Gras or East Island, Diavik would need to prove that the water, lake bottom and closure surface is clean and safe.	Diavik understands the Panel's concerns. Currently-approved closure plans would see the open pit/ underground areas and the North Inlet reconnected to Lac de Gras. Diavik has conducted several studies to determine if there are risks (potential for contamination) to the environment, should they be reconnected to LDG. Current plans also provide for multiple years of monitoring prior to possibly reconnecting these areas. Closure plans for the PKC include breaches in the dam in certain areas. It is Diavik's preference from a liability perspective to not retain regulated containment structures on the site.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Open Pits

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
8.9	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Do not breach dikes until the TK Panel is satisfied with the water quality through visual inspection and reviewing results from scientific analysis.	Panel members have repeatedly expressed the importance of 'seeing with their own eyes'. It is important to continue to involve Panel members in key decisions during the closure phase of the mine. One of the most important phases to supporting this process will be prior to breaching the dikes. If Panel members are satisfied with what they see and learn, they can support reconnecting the dike areas to Lac de Gras.	Continued engagement of the TK Panel through site visits during closure is Diavik's preferred approach to sharing plans and progress, and continuing to build the Panel's knowledge and expertise of closure activities.	Accepted
8.20	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Leave the land between the pits and the dikes as it is for natural regrowth when flooding.	Much of the natural lake beds that are exposed inside the dike have been undisturbed for many years and have had substantial growth of terrestrial (land) plants. Panel members felt that these plants should be left in place. While they will likely die once they are under water, they will help to establish other water plants and provide food for bugs that live in the water.	The plant growth that has occurred in these areas is something that was not anticipated during the environmental assessment. Diavik is in agreement with the Panel on their recommended approach, but recognizes that other stakeholders, such as DFO, will be interested in considering the best option for these areas at closure.	Accepted
8.21	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Leave dikes as they are (i.e. do not modify the slope or current construction).	Panel members had much discussion over the dikes. In the end, many felt that the dikes will act as islands and offer protection from wind and waves inside (good for small and resting fish). The outside of the dikes would be perfect for bigger fish and other fish to swim along, and many Panel members stated that this is where they would set nets.	This recommendation aligns with Diavik's current closure plans. The only changes to the dikes would be the areas that are breached to reconnect the pits back to Lac de Gras.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Open Pits

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
8.22	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Vary depths of built reefs.	Keeping some parts of the reef deeper and some shallow allows for current to run through the area. Keeping the reefs under water will allow the water to freeze and the ice to grow really thick for safe travel. Building islands that extend out of the water was considered by the Panel at one point, but they ultimately preferred keeping the reefs under water, given that the dikes will become islands once they are breached.	This recommendation aligns with Diavik's current closure plans.	Not Accepted
8.23	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Don't build, or minimize building reefs on previous lake bottom areas inside the dike area (i.e. protect undisturbed and naturally vegetated areas).	Similar to the feedback received during the revegetation session (#7), Panel members were interested in preserving areas inside the dike that had not been disturbed by mining activities. Reef construction should be focussed on areas within the dike where disturbance has already occurred.	This recommendation aligns with Diavik's current closure plans.	Accepted
8.24	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Ensure good fish habitat for rearing, feeding and resting on reefs inside dike.	A combination of sand and gravel are the preferred materials to use for building reefs and new areas of lake bed, as this is what was there in the beginning (i.e. before mining). Fish that are just born like shallow areas with gravel and a bit of sand or till (original lake bottom sediments). Little fish don't like too much sand, though, and minnows will often die in these types of areas. There was a lot of debate about what type of habitat to develop inside the dikes, but Panel members ultimately felt that there was enough good spawning habitat elsewhere in Lac de Gras, so the focus for this area should be shelter for feeding and resting.	This recommendation aligns with Diavik's current closure plans.	Not Accepted



## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Open Pits

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
8.25	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Stock water in open pits with bugs to improve water quality.	Many Panel members identified that bugs in the water and on the lake bottom are beneficial to fish and the environment. Their continued presence is also an indicator of good water quality. Adding bugs to areas that were previously disturbed could help to reclaim those areas.	Diavik is interested in this idea and plans to explore the feasibility of incorporating this method into closure plans.??	Not Accepted
8.26	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Provide opportunity for the TK Panel to view the present shoreline when snow-free to consider further recommendations (in spring).	Panel members have repeatedly expressed the importance of 'seeing with their own eyes'. This Panel session was held in December in Yellowknife, so many members were basing their discussions on memory and hadn't closely looked at the shoreline areas of the pits in the past. In order to confirm their preferences, Panel members would like to visit the shoreline areas within the dike when there is no snow on the ground.	A visit to these areas is planned for May 2016, during TK Panel Session 9.	Accepted
8.27	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Break-up the 1 km cliff on pit A418 with slopes (to make it safe for caribou).	There was a concern that a cliff feature at the edge of a lake could result in caribou or other animals being injured or killed, especially if it was used by predators as a hunting technique. Additionally, the length of the existing cliff would mean that caribou would have to swim up to 1 km to get out of the water. As such, it was felt that adding slopes at regular intervals would be helpful for animals to get in/out of the water safely.	Diavik plans to accommodate this request when finalizing closure designs for the A418 pit. A visit to this area is planned for May 2016, during TK Panel Session 9, and it would be helpful to have the TK Panel confirm that this recommendation still holds after seeing the area with their own eyes.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Open Pits

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
8.28	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Leave current roads into the pits (e.g. A154).	Panel members found it acceptable to leave the ramps (that are currently used for vehicles to enter the pits) in place at closure, as they could provide safe access for wildlife into and out of the lake.	This recommendation aligns with Diavik's current closure plans.	Accepted
9.25	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Given that the pits are going to be refilled with water, that Diavik is considering putting processed kimberlite and 'slimes' into the pits and underground shafts and concerns about tremors and seismic activity, the TK Panel requests a tour of the pits and underground shafts to see the 'receiving environment' with their own eyes.	As with many other aspects of the site, TK Panel members find it helpful to see things with their own eyes in order to better understand an area and the related closure considerations for that area.	DDMI understands the Panel's interest in viewing the open pits and underground to better understand the closure objectives for this area. A visit underground is very time consuming with many safety considerations and special equipment; not all Panel members may be comfortable going underground. DDMI suggests that a future TK Panel session focus on the option to store PK underground and that a tour of the open pit and underground areas would be arranged for those who wish to view them, in conjunction with that session.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Open Pits

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
12.4	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Fill the pits from the bottom up with Lac de Gras water so that water is not running down the walls of the pits. Let the water settle for a minimum of two years.	A concern that has been raised in previous sessions is the potential for contamination from the pit walls such that the water might be contaminated when the pits are filled. The TK Panel wants to see the pits filled from the bottom up in order to minimize the water running down the pit walls as well as to minimize missing or stirring up of PK with water by controlling the way in which water is added to the pits.	Diavik advised that several studies have been carried out to “wash the walls” and test the resulting water quality and that no concerns have been raised. Recent model updates indicate that if water conditions are good sooner than two years, better to breach earlier rather than later (to avoid concentration build-up).	Accepted
12.8	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	When scientists and the TK Panel agree that the pit water is safe (i.e., drinkable) and stable (i.e., consistent), then breaching of the dikes can occur to allow water to flow back and forth but prevent fish from entering the pits, at least initially.	After much discussion and clarification was provided over the session, the TK Panel decided that the first phase of breaching the dikes should allow for water movement, but not fish movement particularly for pits containing PK.	Per EA measure 2, DDMI is conducting cultural use water quality criteria workshops to inform criteria for dike breaching.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Open Pits

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
12.10	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Whether or not the dikes allow fish passage, do not build up fish habitat within the shallow pit areas where PK is placed as fish will return naturally if they sense it is safe and the nutrients and oxygen that they need are there. Focus DFO requirement for fish habitat enhancement in pits where there will be no PK. The TK Panel needs to be there to watch and provide guidance on how to enhance fish habitat.	Fish are known to have an acute sense of smell, just like animals. This sense will guide fish to know whether it is safe to enter the pits once the dikes are breached. Fish are known to be smart and use temperature to guide their movements. The TK Panel discussed the fact that it would take time before fish would return to the pits after the dikes are breached because there needs to be enough food for them. One panelist suggested that it would be important to see how the micro-organisms survive in the pit water: if the fish food doesn't survive, people will know that the fish won't survive.	Agreed	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Processed Kimberlite Containment (PKC) Area

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
6.1	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 5	Cover PKC area with a combination of natural sand and soil to ensure that the PKC is not over-heating the area (and melting permafrost) and to support natural re-vegetation	Concern was expressed that the dark colour of both the coarse PK and the liner would attract more sun (heat) that would result in permafrost melt. There was also a desire to see the area revegetated as Panel members expect that caribou and other wildlife will attempt to access the area after closure.	The revised closure plan discussed in the October 2013 TK Panel session was approved by the WLWB in May 2014. The current plan includes a rock cover that would be lighter in colour and serve the same purpose as the sand and soil cover proposed by the TK/IQ Panel. The rock cover required to contain the Processed Kimberlite and protect it against wind & water could limit opportunities for revegetation.	Accepted
6.2	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 5	If there were eskers within the PKC area, reclaim these to their original state or as close as possible	A key goal expressed by the TK Panel was to return the landscape to a more natural state.	Need to consider technical requirements that would provide stability of the dam structure after closure. This is likely to limit the ability to re-design the PKC area with features such as an esker.	Not Accepted
6.3	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 5	Re-vegetate the PKC area according to baseline traditional knowledge and science	A key goal expressed by the TK Panel was to return the landscape to a more natural state. Panel members thought that vegetation may help to stabilize the ground.	The current closure plan does not include revegetation of the PKC area. It is unlikely that vegetation would help to stabilize the ground in this area given the substrate, cover materials and permafrost development, and also in consideration of the limited root systems of sub-arctic plants. Lichen development on rock/ boulders may develop over time.	Not Accepted



TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Processed Kimberlite Containment (PKC) Area

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
6.4	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 5	Create wildlife habitat and stabilize ground with transplanted willow	TK/IQ Panel members first leaned toward deterring animals from using this area after closure, but the Panel came to realize through their discussions that caribou and other wildlife will attempt to access the area after closure. For this reason, the vision of the Panel for this area shifted to recreating habitat similar to what was present before the mine was constructed. A key concern that Diavik noted was the instability of the fine PK 'flatlands' or 'beaches' that are contained inside the PKC dam.	The current closure plan does not include revegetation of the PKC area. It is unlikely that vegetation would help to stabilize the ground in this area. Diavik would need to explore possible options and their associated risks if revegetation of the PKC was to be considered.	Not Accepted
6.5	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 5	Create marshy areas with moss, lichen and berries	This type of vegetation would provide a food source and safe travelways for animals. It would also resemble what the area looked like before the mine was built.	The main focus in closing the PKC is to direct PKC seepage and/or runoff water to marshy areas on the tundra that have moss cover and allow for natural filtration. It is currently preferred to keep the flatland area within the PKC dams dry and sloped toward a planned pond. This would help to stabilize the PK underneath the cover material.	Not Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Processed Kimberlite Containment (PKC) Area

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
6.6	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 5	Removal of the slime from the mine site upon closure.	Traditional laws and stewardship of the land imply that you do not leave human-made materials behind as it is harmful to water, air or animals. The removal of slime provides a level of comfort and certainty to northern communities that is not otherwise available. This preference is based on the acknowledged problems created by leaving the slurry/slime onsite, in particular safety concerns for people and wildlife and the uncertainties associated with impacts from environmental change (e.g., a rise in temperature and associated drought, permafrost melting, earthquakes) long into the future. Further, it provides an opportunity to return the landscape to a more natural state which is a key goal expressed by the TK Panel throughout sessions to date.	Diavik understands the motivation to remove the slimes from site. However, should the material prove to be non-toxic to people and wildlife, Diavik plans to leave the slimes on site. Should the material be used or accessible to wildlife (directly or indirectly) at closure, it would be beneficial to conduct a toxicological study on the material.	Not Accepted
6.7	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 5	Removing the slime offsite remains the preferred option until Diavik can demonstrate through chemical and toxicological analysis that the slime is not harmful to the environment (i.e. plants, wildlife, fish, and humans).	Upon discussion, Panel members stated that should the slimes prove to be non-toxic, they would be more willing to assess on-site containment options for this material. TK holders need to see for themselves that something is not harmful to the environment. Participants would want to be confident in the results of the scientific testing.	Should the material prove to be non-toxic to people and wildlife, Diavik plans to leave the slimes on site and determine the preferred method for containment that allows for safe use or passage of wildlife in the PKC area.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Processed Kimberlite Containment (PKC) Area

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
6.8	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	Return the lake and shoreline to their natural states, as much as possible (e.g. gradual slope)	This approach would create safe access for wildlife, as it is assumed that wildlife will try to use this area after closure.	It is likely that the shoreline of any reclaimed pond will differ from a natural pond, but it may be possible to recreate some elements of interest to communities.	Accepted
6.9	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	Ensure that the shoreline (of the PKC lake) is stable and that rocks are of the correct size to be safe for wildlife, especially caribou.	This approach would create safe access for wildlife, as it is assumed that wildlife will try to use this area after closure.	Another closure goal for Diavik is to have land areas that are physically stable and safe for people, wildlife and aquatic life.	Not Accepted
6.10	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	Line the lake bottom with granite, gravel and rocks and other natural materials that were there before	Create a more natural and stable lake bottom that would be safe for caribou use during the warm months.	One of Diavik's closure goals is to create a final landscape guided by pre-development conditions & TK. Consideration of materials available and suitable for use are evaluated as part of the closure planning process.	Not Accepted
6.11	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	Re-vegetate the lake with water plants of this area	Such plants contribute to biodiversity as they are a food source for other fish and animals. Plants feed fish but may also clean the water that wildlife may to drink and birds are likely to land on.	Current closure plans do not include revegetating lakes with water plants. Because the water pond within the PKC would not be stocked with fish (see below), efforts would also not be made to revegetate lakes with water plants. DDMI prefers to construct this lake in a manner that would not attract wildlife or promote its use.	Not Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Processed Kimberlite Containment (PKC) Area

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
6.12	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	Re-stock lake with fish and bugs	The desire of Panel members is to recreate pre-mine conditions. The limitations of water movement after closure were discussed in relation to elevation changes in this area; historic water flow patterns between Lac de Gras and the PKC area that would be necessary to support fish and bug life would be incredibly difficult to achieve.	Current closure plans do not include re-stocking fish and bugs in East Island lakes, and this includes the lake within the PKC area. Water flow patterns that would be similar to historic conditions and possibly allow for fish and bug life in the PKC pond are not planned for this area. As discussed, elevation changes from mine development would prevent this from occurring.	Not Accepted
6.13	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	Recreate small ponds along the drainage route to encourage settling and healing of the water and fish habitat	There is a strong belief expressed by the Panel that nature heals itself and that it can be disrespectful to interfere with nature, but that humans can help to create the conditions to support healing. Encouraging longer drainage paths that utilize small ponds increases the chance of having cleaner water when it reaches Lac de Gras.	Diavik agrees with this recommendation and the proposed drainage path for a pond within the PKC area flows across the tundra, and passes through 3 small ponds along the way.	Not Accepted
6.14	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	Support the drainage streams to encourage fish to migrate from Lac de Gras to the reclaimed lake	The desire of Panel members is to recreate pre-mine conditions. The limitations of water movement after closure were discussed in relation to elevation changes in this area; historic water flow patterns between Lac de Gras and the PKC area that would be necessary to support fish and bug life would be incredibly difficult to achieve.	The footprint of the PKC extends close to the shoreline of Lac de Gras which could make it very difficult to reduce the slope of the dam in some key areas. The elevation difference for the PKC area at closure will be significant when compared with the original lake in that area, making it very difficult to re-establish baseline conditions. Technical considerations also need to be taken into account; the dam walls still need to contain PK material that would remain after closure.	Not Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Processed Kimberlite Containment (PKC) Area

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
6.15	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	Make the closure lake as similar to the original lake, as much as possible	The desire of Panel members is to recreate pre-mine conditions and plan for safe usage of the area by wildlife.	Material availability will be limited and Diavik prefers to use material available at the site, without disturbing new areas. It is likely that the shoreline of any reclaimed pond will differ from a natural pond, but it may be possible to identify and recreate some elements of interest to communities.	Not Accepted
6.16	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	Provide sufficient travel-ways for caribou and muskox over the dam through re-sloping and topping with smaller material	This approach would create safe access for wildlife, as it is assumed that wildlife will try to use this area after closure.	The current closure plan does not include re-shaping of the PKC dams. Any proposed changes would need to be evaluated for possible risks and discussed with communities. The footprint of the PKC extends close to the shoreline of Lac de Gras which could make it very difficult to reduce the slope of the dam in some key areas. Technical considerations also need to be taken into account; the dam walls still need to safely contain PK material that would remain after closure.	Not Accepted
6.17	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	Recognizing that caribou may return, provide areas of soft materials that are good for caribou feet so that they may pass over the reclaimed site	TK holders care about the comfort of animals and want to avoid creating stress for them. This approach would create safe access for wildlife, as it is assumed that wildlife will try to use this area after closure.	The current closure plan does not include cover materials that would provide access over the PKC dams. Any proposed changes would need to be evaluated for possible risks and discussed with communities.	Accepted



TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Processed Kimberlite Containment (PKC) Area

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
6.18	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	Leave some areas steep to encourage snow accumulation for wolverine and other denning wildlife (e.g. wolf, bear, fox, ground squirrel, etc.)	This approach would create safe access for wildlife, as it is assumed that wildlife will try to use this area after closure.	This would be achieved with the current closure plan.	Accepted
6.19	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	Open up sections of the dam to recreate natural water flow	The desire of Panel members is to recreate pre-mine conditions. The limitations of water movement after closure were discussed in relation to elevation changes in this area; historic water flow patterns between Lac de Gras and the PKC area would be incredibly difficult to achieve.	The footprint of the PKC extends close to the shoreline of Lac de Gras which would result in a very short pathway for water to travel and heal before entering Lac de Gras. This conflicts with previous guidance to route water overland for as long as possible, and DDMI's preference is the latter. Technical considerations also need to be taken into account; the dam walls still need to safely contain PK material that would remain after closure.	Not Accepted
6.20	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	The TK Panel requests that DDMI starts to remove any new slime from site, effective immediately	The Panel felt it important to stop adding to the volume of slimes that has already accumulated on site.	DDMI is unable to immediately start removing slimes from site, as there is no alternative storage options available or permitted, nor is there an acceptable method of transport available.	Not Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Processed Kimberlite Containment (PKC) Area

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
6.21	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	The TK Panel requests that DDMI provide an overview of the sixteen closure options that have been considered and the preferred five options identified (including costs). Further, the TK Panel requests that DDMI provide an overview and cost estimate to remove the slime from the mine site.	The options, reasons and costs were important for the TK/IQ Panel to understand in consideration of their own assessment.	The options were reviewed with Panel members, though cost information was not available at the time the information was presented.	Accepted
6.22	Processed Kimberlite Containment Interim Report, 24-28 October 2013, pg. 6	The TK Panel recommends that DDMI explore ways of treating and removing slurry/slime with other diamond mines in the area to make it feasible	The assumption here is that costs will be reduced by working together.	Should such measures be necessary in the future, DDMI would be willing to explore such options in cooperation with other mines.	Not Accepted
7.7	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Create barriers and other means between the rock pile and PKC to discourage animals from going into the PKC area	Diavik provided feedback to the Panel at the start of Session 7 that a number of their recommendations from Session 6 (PKC) would not be possible, so Panel members had to re-evaluate their preferred approach to managing this area after closure. Participants realized that more discussion is required to develop alternate recommendations for the PKC. However, Panel members also noted that it is important to consider having a barrier between the rock pile and PKC that would prevent or deter animals from going into the PKC area. Keeping a steep slope on the side of the rock pile that is beside the PKC was recommended by the Panel.	The Panel's preference for design that prevents or deters caribou from travelling from the (north country) rock pile to the PKC is supported. The design approach to achieve this will need to be considered, as maximum slopes required for cover placement may not be sufficient in themselves to act as a barrier to movement.	Not Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Processed Kimberlite Containment (PKC) Area

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
8.11	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Monitor and filter two streams from the east and west sides of the PKC by Mother Nature through mosses, bogs; moss should be placed throughout the channel. In the short term, install an industrial filtering system. Monitor this water quality.	Another key concern for communities is the water quality of the PKC. Natural methods to filter water (e.g. moss) and planning for water to follow a long pathway to Lac de Gras are the Panel members preferred, long-term water treatment approaches. Recognizing that the development of moss may take time, it would be prudent to consider using an industrial filtering system to treat water flowing from the PKC once the mine closes and until such time as a natural filtering system has established. Water flowing from the PKC should be monitored scientifically for water quality.	Diavik currently monitors water quality in the PKC and this practice would be incorporated into a post-closure monitoring program. Routing options for water leaving the PKC after closure will be assessed, and DDMI agrees with the Panel that the distance it flows before entering Lac de Gras will be an important consideration. However, options may be limited in some areas, particularly on the west side. Should site-specific treatment of PKC water be required, relevant options (both industrial and natural) to achieve the required performance would be evaluated.	Not Accepted
9.8	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Place a circle of boulders around the PKC pond, in an area that is stable enough to support the weight and where they won't sink into the slimes, and around the shore of the North Inlet (refer to map).	Panel members prefer to find a way to deter caribou and other wildlife from accessing the PKC pond after closure. Panel members would prefer that the PKC pond not become a drinking water source for animals. Additionally, there is a risk of animals becoming trapped in the water, or stuck in the unstable slimes material at the edge of the pond. Man-made fences can sometimes injure wildlife or be used in predation, and require maintenance, so the preference is to use a natural way of deterring animals from accessing the pond.	Diavik is still evaluating options for closing the PKC area. The current plan includes a pond in the centre of the PKC post-closure, but other options that could omit the need for a pond are being assessed in accordance with the recommendations received from past TK Panel sessions. The TK Panel's recommendation for the use of boulders around the pond has been noted for consideration, should the preferred closure plan result in the need for a pond in the PKC. Diavik is committed to arranging a future TK Panel session to re-visit the PKC closure plans, once further information on closure options have been further evaluated.	Not Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Processed Kimberlite Containment (PKC) Area

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
11.1	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	If the PK goes to the mine area, the TK Panel recommends that all of the PKC slimes also be put into the pits. There is interest in moving as much of the slimes as possible from the PKC into the mine area and away from the surface where wildlife might gain access.	Panel members weighed the options of disposing PK into the PKC versus the pits/underground, considering the potential effects on wildlife, fish and the environment. As discussed during previous sessions, Diavik reminded the Panelists that a concern about the PKC are the slimes that form a consistency like toothpaste and can be harmful to wildlife or people that may get stuck in it owing to its physical properties.	If Diavik receives approval to deposit PK in mine workings then Diavik will proceed to evaluate the feasibility/practicality of also moving EFPK ("slimes") to the mine workings including anticipated benefits to closure of the PKC facility.	Not Accepted
11.2	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	If Diavik moves ahead with putting PKC slimes into the mine areas, the Panel requests to review any changes to the PKC closure plan. For example, if it is not possible to move all of the slimes in the PKC to the mine area and some of the slimes remain in the PKC, the TK Panel may recommend that the PKC is topped with large boulders to discourage wildlife and people from entering.	Panel members weighed the options of disposing PK into the PKC versus the pits/underground, considering the potential effects on wildlife, fish and the environment. As discussed during previous sessions, Diavik reminded the Panelists that a concern about the PKC are the slimes that form a consistency like toothpaste and can be harmful to wildlife or people that may get stuck in it owing to its physical properties.	If Diavik receives approval to deposit PK in mine workings then Diavik will proceed to evaluate the feasibility/practicality of also moving EFPK ("slimes") to the mine workings including anticipated benefits to closure of the PKC facility.	Accepted
11.3	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The beach materials and rough kimberlite should stay in the PKC area (i.e., anything that can support a rock cover).	Panel members weighed the options of disposing PK into the PKC versus the pits/underground, considering the potential effects on wildlife, fish and the environment.	Diavik agrees	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Processed Kimberlite Containment (PKC) Area

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
12.1	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	The TK Panel would prefer to have the soft material that is produced from processing kimberlite (slimes) stored away from the surface so animals and humans cannot access it and accidentally get caught in it. The Panel supports the option of putting the existing slimes that are in the PKC plus new slimes produced, in the bottom of the pit so that animals and people do not have access to it.	The TK Panel revisited previous discussions around the PKC and reminded one another how a rock cover would not be too effective given that the rocks would sink into the slimes which can behave like quicksand. Several panelists advised that it would be much better to put the slimes and PK back into the pits in part because that would mean that the rock pile above the PKC could be kept lower and more stable.	If Diavik receives approval to deposit PK in mine workings then Diavik will proceed to evaluate the feasibility/practicality of also moving EFPK ("slimes") to the mine workings including anticipated benefits to closure of the PKC facility.	Not Accepted
12.2	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Remove the slimes that are currently in the PKC such that Diavik can start to cover the PKC to create a safe and hard surface at least three years earlier than the original closure plan.	The TK Panel revisited previous discussions around the PKC and reminded one another how a rock cover would not be too effective given that the rocks would sink into the slimes which can behave like quicksand. Several panelists advised that it would be much better to put the slimes and PK back into the pits in part because that would mean that the rock pile above the PKC could be kept lower and more stable.	If Diavik receives approval to deposit PK in mine workings then Diavik will proceed to evaluate the feasibility/practicality of also moving EFPK ("slimes") to the mine workings including anticipated benefits to closure of the PKC facility.	Not Accepted



TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Rock Piles

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
2.2	Renewing Our Landscape, 7 December 2012, pg. 22	Do not allow water to pool on top of the rock pile	Once a small pool of water forms, it gets bigger and becomes a lake that attracts animals. Animals then start to use it. Because the Panel is concerned with the quality of water within or flowing from the pile, there is concern for the health of caribou and other wildlife.	Diavik is not planning to have a water pond on top of the rock pile at closure.	Accepted
2.3	Renewing Our Landscape, 7 December 2012, pg. 23	Have a 'moat' around the rock pile as a way of being able to contain and monitor the water that is coming out of the pile.	Relates back to the concern of water quality coming off/out of the pile. Eskers have cold water flowing out of them because of the permafrost within the esker. The same is likely to happen with the rock pile as permafrost builds up within the pile over the years.	The existing collection ponds surrounding the rock pile serve this purpose and current plans have the ponds remaining until adequate water quality has been demonstrated.	Accepted
2.6	Renewing Our Landscape, 7 December 2012, pg. 45; Appendix D, pg. 8	Some revegetation should be planned for the rock pile. Consider use of good, black soil from the tundra or other eskers in the area. Plant native shrubs such as dwarf birch and willow in the soil near the bottom and allow the remainder to revegetate naturally.	Respect for the land includes respecting natural systems - there is a reason for each plant being there. Introduced species can be harmful and quickly take over; preference is to use naturally occurring plants. Using soil from elsewhere may be acceptable because the Diavik island is a traditional place for caribou to roam and is a good feeding/resting area; another option is to use till from A21. Revegetation will take time but it is the right thing to do. Consider visiting old archaeological sites or other esker sites to view re/growth; exposure will dictate what grows where (shade, leeward, side, top).	The current closure plan does not account for revegetation on the rock pile. Harvesting soils from outside the mine footprint is not being considered. Re-vegetation priority for DDMI is still plant site, laydowns and roads.	Not Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Rock Piles

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
3.1	Renewing Our Landscape, 7 December 2012, Appendix D, pg.6; Closure Reclamation & Landscape History Interim Report, 19-22 February 2013, pg.4	Simulate an esker when considering the final shape of the rock pile.	Traditional stewardship means leaving things as natural as possible. Make it look as natural as possible by imitating the effects of glaciers and prevailing easterly winds on the surrounding landscape. This includes sloping the top edges so they are rounded, sloping the sides so they are less steep (similar to the test pile) and have varying levels of steepness. Place rock from the pile back into the pit. The top should be flat with berms removed so that caribou can walk safely as there would be fewer places for predators to hide; they may want to use the hill to get away from bugs. Big boulders should be removed, particularly at the bottom of the pile and on the north slope, as wildlife will likely get injured trying to walk over them. The north side should be the most gradual slope, as this will be the area for wildlife and people to access the top.	Simulating a large esker is a preferred approach to re-shaping the rock pile. Closure plans do not include placing rock back in the pit. Diavik anticipates that re-shaping efforts would eliminate the need for large boulders to be removed.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Rock Piles

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
3.2	Renewing Our Landscape, 7 December 2012, Appendix D, pg.7; Closure Reclamation & Landscape History Interim Report, 19-22 February 2013, pg.5	Safe wildlife access needs to be considered for all seasons when designing the final shape of the rock pile. There needs to be soft material in areas where caribou will be; consider the use of PK material for animal paths.	Prevailing winter winds (NE) will result in a smooth snow cover that drops straight down on the lee side of the pile so need to consider TK/IQ in relation to snow drifts. In summer, caribou will go on top of the pile to avoid flies; consider having something for them to eat up there. In fall, caribou will swim across to the island from the northwest, following their old migration path; consider having a caribou ramp across the pile that connects with this access point. Use waste rock to slope the pile and consider an esker 8 miles NE of Diavik as an example. Refer to comment 1.0, Landscape for further information on suitable materials for caribou feet.	A caribou 'ramp' (safe access on, off and across the pile) for the rock pile is included in the current version of the closure plan. Additional ideas on design options to provide safe access for wildlife are being discussed with communities, along with technical considerations for design and performance. Diavik would need to evaluate the properties of PK in relation to animal health before determining if its use is suitable for caribou trails.	Accepted
3.3	Renewing Our Landscape, 7 December 2012, Appendix D, pg.12 & 13	Channel water flow to prevent contaminants from reaching Lac de Gras.	Consider using geotextile to line drainage channels downstream of the pile and revegetate these areas. Snow drifts and areas of accumulation need to be considered when planning for drainage. The lake water needs to remain healthy as the people of Kugluktuk live downstream.	Closure plans for the mine consider the use of drainage paths that allow additional time for water to travel over the tundra before reaching Lac de Gras. Diavik's closure goals include land and water that is physically and chemically stable and safe for people, wildlife and aquatic life.	Not Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Rock Piles

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
5.1	Closure Reclamation & Landscape History Interim Report, 19-22 February 2013, pg.4	Preference is to lower the height of the rock pile. However, if that is not possible, keep the rock pile height as low as possible while ensuring that contaminants within the Type II and III rock areas are contained.	The biggest concern that Panel members have is chemicals seeping from the pile into the lake or being ingested by wildlife drinking the water. While the pile is considered an eyesore and Panel members would like to see it smaller (lower) on account of wildlife concerns, participants also recognize that it is most important for the pile to function well in containing chemicals from entering the environment.	The rock pile has reached its maximum height and matches what was originally permitted for the mine, though capping materials will result in a slightly higher final elevation. Diavik's primary closure goal is to contain Type II and III rock and ensure that water quality from the rock pile seepage is safe for wildlife and humans.	Accepted
5.2	Closure Reclamation & Landscape History Interim Report, 19-22 February 2013, pg.4	Cap the rock pile with the best materials for biodiversity based on TK and science, using nearby hills as a reference.	Many Panel members believe that nature needs a helping hand; it will heal itself, but conditions to allow re-growth need to be created. Everyone recognizes that things grow slowly in the north, but that over time the area should heal. Panel members desire to see the land as close as possible to how it looked before is the main factor in guiding recommendations. While it is acknowledged that the area will never be the same again, efforts to reclaim areas in a way that resemble natural features is preferred.	Material availability will be an important aspect of closure planning. Diavik's preference is to use materials available at the mine site, without having to disturb other areas. Mine rock and till will be the materials available in greatest supply and these are currently being considered for use in capping the rock pile.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Rock Piles

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
5.3	Closure Reclamation & Landscape History Interim Report, 19-22 February 2013, pg.5	Experiment with different types of wetlands for filtering water that collects at the base of the rock pile.	Traditionally, people tried different things to solve problems and TK holders want to be involved in any new experiments. This method should be combined with current or alternate purification system(s) to treat remaining contaminants. There are opportunities for Aboriginal people to be trained to do this type of monitoring. Panel members recognize that it is not ideal to have a water treatment plant on site forever and that more natural treatment options, similar to many used in communities, are preferred in the long term.	Wetland drainage has been effective in this area in the past and that is what is currently planned for managing water from the rock pile.	Accepted
EMAB-2	Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board TK/IQ Panel Recommendations from February 2013, Letter from EMAB, 8 Oct 2013, pg.2	EMAB recommends that Diavik incorporate into its ICRP research the following question: Will vegetation on the waste rock pile increase snow trap, which will increase run off and increase the chance of leaching?	TK/IQ Panel members have highlighted considerations for snow accumulation in relation to prevailing winds, but have not discussed this in relation to vegetation on the pile.	Not supported as current closure plans for the rock pile do not include revegetation.	Not Accepted



## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Rock Piles

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
EMAB-3	Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board TK/IQ Panel Recommendations from February 2013, Letter from EMAB, 8 Oct 2013, pg.2	EMAB recommends that Diavik shape rock piles in a way that directs freshet runoff away from Lac De Gras through natural wetlands in order to naturally filter the runoff.	Supports discussions of the TK/IQ Panel preferences of wetland treatment and diverting water away from Lac de Gras for as great a distance as possible.	Diavik supports this approach wherever possible but notes that runoff and seepage will eventually reach Lac de Gras. Suggest re-wording to: "...direct freshet runoff and seepage away from Lac de Gras and through seepage wetlands <i>for as long a distance as possible...</i> " Diavik has also applied this recommendation to the proposed PKC closure option.	Accepted
7.9	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Create slopes on the rock pile similar to that on the test pile to support safe travel for animals.	Panel members felt that it was not necessary to plan too much for the animals safe passage, as caribou will ultimately go where they want and will find the ramp, road or easy way. Preference was to align the path with the old migration route and to keep the slope similar to that of the test pile - as natural as possible. Boulder size and angles were also a concern. Panel members noticed some big, sharp rocks at the bottom of the north country rock pile that would need to be covered. It was seen as important to think about the slope in the winter too - how wind will deposit snow - not just when it is snow free. The berms on top of the rock pile were viewed as a barrier to caribou movement, so it would be preferred to remove them and also to remove the berm around the top of the pile.	This is very similar feedback to what community members said at a 2009 workshop relating to caribou at closure. Current closure plans, most notably for the rock pile, generally support this recommendation and the underlying reasons for the recommendation.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Rock Piles

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
8.30	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Ensure long term scientific monitoring of NCRP to determine if it remains frozen and stable.	The NCRP has been identified as one of the main concerns of Panel members who feel that climate change may affect its integrity and release contaminated water into the environment. As such, Panel members want to make sure that pile remains frozen in the core, as it was designed to be.	Many stakeholders are interested in the performance and integrity of the rock pile. As such, long-term monitoring plans would be incorporated into the development of the post-closure monitoring program.	Accepted
9.1	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Re-vegetate the base of the NCRP around the ponds.	While some members of the TK Panel initially hoped that the NCRP would be re-vegetated, others preferred to let nature take its course and heal itself over time. After much discussion, Panel members concluded that it would be beneficial to focus re-vegetation efforts to the areas where ponds are located at the base of the NCRP. This would help to both naturally filter water coming in to or flowing out of the ponds, as well as to possibly help the pile re-vegetate naturally over time.	Diavik has not yet finalized the closure plans for the ponds at the base of the NCRP, but the TK Panel's recommendation for these areas will be considered when developing these plans.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Rock Piles

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
9.2	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	A limited number of large boulders (e.g. 3-4) should be placed on top of the NCRP to provide some shade for caribou, create habitat for small mammals and encourage natural re-vegetation	Panel members felt that a small number of large boulders could be beneficial for caribou, without harming the chemical stability of the pile. Many members think that caribou will go up the pile, primarily to get away from bugs, so it would be good to have some shade for them. If there were only a small number, it would be unlikely that they would be used by predators, but they could create habitat for smaller mammals as well as help with natural re-vegetation by sheltering seeds and water/snow to encourage growth.	While there are no current plans to incorporate a small number of large boulders on top of the NCRP, Diavik would consider adding these if communities identified a need for these as a result of observations from a TK monitoring program, or discussions with Elders once the final landscape of the NCRP can be observed. The Final Closure Plan for the NCRP also identifies this option for future consideration.	Accepted
9.3	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Study the wind and snow accumulation on caribou ramps/trails as well as the top of the NCRP before finishing/finalizing the sloping and grading of the NCRP.	The Panel wants to be sure that the caribou/wildlife pathway that was located along a route recommended by community members will allow safe access throughout the year, including during spring conditions when the caribou are heading north. It would be beneficial to study the wind and snow accumulation along the pathways to determine if the conditions are safe for caribou or other wildlife passage in all seasons. If this is done before the pile is completely finished, the Panel feels that Diavik should be able to fix any grading or sloping issues that communities may identify.	Diavik appreciates this suggestion and hopes that the TK Panel incorporates this monitoring into a site-specific, Traditional Knowledge wildlife monitoring program for the Diavik mine.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Rock Piles

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
9.4	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Ensure a gradual slope on the top of the NCRP so that there is a slight dome down the centre.	Panel members wanted to ensure that any water or snow that may fall or collect on the top of the pile would naturally drain off of the pile. This would minimize the amount of water that could seep into the pile. The Panel considers this another way to make sure that there is long-term protection for the land and water. Once there are no more people at the site, the water and snow must be able to drain safely off the pile.	Diavik appreciates this suggestion. The Final Closure Plan and design for the North Country Rock Pile includes this feature.	Accepted
10.1	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Avoid disturbing new areas (e.g. tundra) with A21 material at the SCRP as much as possible. The proposed SCRP area is part of a major caribou migration and feeding corridor and should not be disturbed.	The TK Panel recognizes the importance of the SCRP area to caribou and would prefer that this area not be developed. However, recognizing that the SCRP location has already been approved and established, they are interested in minimizing the size (footprint and height) of the SCRP.	Diavik shares the opinion of the Panel and prefers to utilize A21 material for other purposes (i.e. NCRP closure cover), thereby reducing the overall size of the SCRP. Diavik has now obtained regulatory and financial approvals to proceed with constructing the NCRP cover. This will begin in spring 2018, and A21 rock and till will be used for the cover. Other opportunities for the use of A21 materials for closure will continue to be evaluated as the CRP progresses.	Accepted

## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Rock Piles

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
10.2	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRIP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	If this area must to be used, minimize the size (i.e. volume/amount) and height of the SCRIP and slope all sides like an esker so that animals can easily walk over it. We recommend the slope should be at 3:1.	The TK Panel has evaluated the covered test pile and observed the re-sloping efforts undertaken on the NCRP. The 3:1 slope on these structures has been supported for the safe movement of wildlife and the Panel is interested in applying that same design to the SCRIP at closure.	While the SCRIP is being constructed, side slopes will be at the angle of repose. As noted above, Diavik's preference is to minimize the size of the pile, however current closure plans do not provide for re-sloping the entire pile, as no closure cover is necessary for the SCRIP. A wildlife pathway has been planned, and that would be re-sloped (3:1) and smoothed to facilitate safe movement across the pile.	Accepted
10.3	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRIP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	If the SCRIP is large, designated pathways become more important and must follow caribou routes known through TK.	Recognizing that there is a possibility that the SCRIP could include all the rock from A21 (i.e., if the NCRP cover is not approved) and that the sides of the SCRIP may not be re-sloped, the Panel notes that designated wildlife pathways would be very important, and that they must be safe and utilize known caribou routes across the pile.	Diavik has currently planned for pathways over and across the SCRIP at closure. We will work with the TK Panel and/or other community contacts as required to finalize their location prior to closure.	Accepted
10.4	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRIP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	We recommend that rock from A21 that could go to SCRIP be used to cover the NCRP.	The Panel applies their traditional approach of respecting everything nature provides to mine closure planning. The 'waste' rock supplied by mining activities in A21 should be used wherever possible, rather than simply being discarded into a pile on the tundra.	Diavik is in agreement with the TK Panel and was awaiting approval on the NCRP cover from the WLWB at the time of Session 10. DDMI has since received the necessary approvals for the cover and plans to begin progressive reclamation of the NCRP, that includes using rock from A21 that would otherwise go to the SCRIP, in the spring of 2018.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Rock Piles

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
10.5	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Drain the pond that would be covered by the SCRP before using the proposed area.	The Panel understands that the pond under the proposed SCRP is non-fish bearing and prefers to have this drained prior to filling it with rock. There were two reasons for this: one was to prevent that water flowing over the tundra to Lac de Gras and the second was to allow more room for rock to fill the area, because it would be covered anyway.	Diavik notes that this was not originally planned for the pond identified. This was a very helpful observation and recommendation that was completed during the fall of 2017.	Accepted
10.6	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Have all SCRP water tested (both science and TK) before releasing into Lac De Gras.	As noted in past TK Panel sessions, Panel members see value in both scientific and TK monitoring of water on East Island at closure. Water that would flow from the mine area to Lac de Gras should be tested at closure, similar to what is done during operations.	Diavik continues to work with the TK Panel to identify more specific locations for closure and post-closure monitoring and we agree that the drainage channel from the SCRP is important to sample. DDMI plans to establish a monitoring station in this location.	Accepted
10.7	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Use natural filtration methods in areas where water will run off the SCRP on site.	As noted in past TK Panel sessions, nature has the ability to heal and natural filtration to treat runoff water (e.g. rain, snow melt) at closure is encouraged. Runoff water from the site should be routed to travel across the tundra and naturally undergo some filtration before entering Lac de Gras.	There are no plans for infrastructure in the area downstream of the SCRP where drainage water would flow at closure. As such, the water will flow over native tundra allowing natural filtration to occur before reaching Lac de Gras. While it is not a particularly long drainage path, it will exist.	Accepted



## TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Rock Piles

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
10.8	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRIP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Diavik must plan for the same values, principles and goals held by the TK Panel for the NCRP, to the SCRIP (e.g. maintain low height, 3:1 slope for caribou).	The TK Panel has evaluated the covered test pile and observed the re-sloping efforts undertaken on the NCRP. The 3:1 slope on these structures has been supported for the safe movement of wildlife and the Panel is interested in applying that same design to the SCRIP at closure.	Diavik has now obtained the necessary approvals to be able to use A21 rock to cover the NCRP. We are also evaluating other options for using A21 rock for reclamation material as closure planning for the site continues. This would help to reduce the overall size of the SCRIP. Diavik is planning for a wildlife pathway across the SCRIP, with reduced slope angles that we anticipate to be at 3:1. However, the remainder of the pile is not currently planned to be re-sloped. The reason for this is that there is no need for a cover on the SCRIP as it contains no T3 rock.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Spiritual & Cultural

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
2.4	Renewing Our Landscape, 7 Dec 2012, pg. 25	Renew relationship with the area after closure.	Spiritual ceremonies to invite the spirits to return to the mine site will be required responsibilities require people to make amends to the spirits of the land for the damage created by the mine. It is important that current and future generations maintain their relationship with their homelands that surround the mine. Aboriginal harvesters will travel where the caribou go, and provided that the area is made safe and accessible for caribou, they will go there again. For this reason, Aboriginal people's connection with the land needs to be renewed and/or maintained after closure.	Diavik is open to recommendations on how best to approach this with each of the five Aboriginal Participation Agreement communities.	Accepted
4.3.1	Closure/Reclamation and Landscape History Interim Report, 23-25 October 2012, pg.6	Visit burial, archaeological and heritage resource areas close to the mine.	Provide comfort to community members that important sites have been preserved and that this historical connection still exists with the land in this area; important for youth to know the locations and stories behind these sites.	This type of activity could be incorporated into plans to renew the community's relationship with the land in this area after closure.	Accepted
4.3.2	Closure/Reclamation and Landscape History Interim Report, 23-25 October 2012, pg.6	Conduct a tobacco (or other) ceremony when the company is ready to leave the island.	Heal and reconcile the relationship with the land once all work is complete. The type of ceremony may be different for different cultures.	This type of activity could be incorporated into plans to renew the community's relationship with the area after closure.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Spiritual & Cultural

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
9.6	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Recognize and honour the importance of ceremony in healing the relationship to caribou and contribute to healing events that are currently being planned by communities.	N/A	Diavik works through Implementation Committees that have been established with each of their Participation Agreement communities to determine priority areas for financial contributions. We recommend speaking with your community organizations to identify this request for their consideration.	Accepted
9.22	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Respect spiritual beliefs and the importance of healing ceremonies of Aboriginal communities, work with the TK Panel to plan spiritual gatherings on site now through 2030: one would be held early to help people on site understand Aboriginal ceremonial ways, possibly timed with a TK Panel session (e.g. 2017-8), second would be to start healing the environment (e.g. 2020), third would be designed to seek guidance on the finalization of closure plans (e.g. 2023) and fourth would be large and involved to formally invite the spirits to return to the Island before Diavik leaves (all communities invited, e.g. 2030).	Building in the practice of healing and/or guidance ceremonies is important and can be of interest to workers at the mine, as well as the TK Panel members. It would be helpful to start this practice sooner rather than later.	Diavik is open to further recommendations from the Panel as to when and how this could occur. If the Panel is comfortable with helping to define this, such practices could be incorporated into the TK monitoring program that Diavik is interested in having the Panel develop.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Spiritual & Cultural

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
9.23	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Whenever the TK Panel and community members come on-site, allow opportunity, time, space, etc. for the TK Panel to practice 'feeding the land or water' by Panel members and others (visitors or workers) travel to/from the site and consider other ways to raise awareness (e.g. signage).	It is important to recognize and honor customs. While it is easy for the company to focus on their own safety, it is equally important for the Panel to have the opportunity to feed the land or water, as is traditionally done for safety on the land.	Diavik recognizes the importance of this practice to community members and supports any practices that promote safety and wellbeing at the mine site. This practice will be incorporated into future TK Panel meetings, or other community visits to the site.	Accepted
10.24	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Research or monitoring methods that are offensive to elders (e.g. caribou collars) should lead to getting alternative method advice from elders. Diavik should check with the TK Panel as to whether any aspects of the current monitoring program is offensive and revise them accordingly.	The Panel focuses on closure planning and monitoring, but they are also interested in Diavik's operational monitoring and would like to learn more about monitoring programs, methods and results in order to determine if these are suitable and appropriate from a community perspective.	Diavik can share details of each of the current (operational) monitoring programs with the Panel at a future session to determine if methods used are appropriate. This may also help to inform the Panel's recommendations relating to closure monitoring for wildlife.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
1.20	A Way of Life, 25 October 2012, pg. 25	Youth should be involved with the TK/IQ Panel and included in discussions about closure.	Youth live in a changing and complex world and have skills that the Elders do not. They need to learn about their culture and history, as well as about the mines. They will be the future caretakers of the land and the ones speaking for their communities in the future, so they must be a part of the discussions and decisions.	Diavik sees value in having youth participate in TK/IQ Panel sessions, where possible.	Accepted
2.1	Renewing Our Landscape, 7 December 2012, pg. 9; 19 July 2012 e-mail from EMAB	Arrange for a visit to the mine site to see some of the structures that are being discussed for closure, specifically the North Country (waste) Rock Pile. Preference is to stay at a camp on the land, rather than in mine site accommodations.	In order to provide effective and helpful advice, Panel participants need to see areas in person. A fundamental principle in TK/IQ is that "being knowledgeable" requires an experiential context of what is being discussed, as TK comes to the forefront of peoples minds when they are on the land that they are discussing. This helps to understand the area as it was traditionally and to comprehend the change and scale of the current landscape.	Diavik sees value in having TK/IQ Panel members visit the mine site. For safety reasons, visitors stay at the mine site accommodations.	Accepted

# TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
4.1.3	Checking Nets, 23-25 October 2012, pg.19; Closure/Reclamation and Landscape History Interim Report, 23-25 October 2012, pg.8	Diavik to develop and maintain a tracking sheet for documenting progress on recommendations and action items and present progress to the panel at the beginning of sessions.	Desire for Panel members to see the results of their work and obtain a response from Diavik. Shared learning and acknowledging contributions of others is an important tradition. There is an opportunity to learn from their experience and any recommendations that are implemented. There may be a need to revisit recommendations that are either ineffective or are carried out or interpreted incorrectly. It is also an opportunity to celebrate successes achieved by the Panel and Diavik.	Diavik is committed to providing a response to all Panel recommendations. Diavik also requested that EMAB provide past Panel recommendations to DDMI for response.	Accepted
4.1.4	Checking Nets, 23-25 October 2012, pg.20	Women to have opportunities to participate in TK/IQ Panel – especially for discussions on caribou and vegetation.	Women have specific roles in Aboriginal communities and the knowledge they can contribute is different from that of men. There needs to be respect for the distinct knowledge of women, as Elder women have special gifts and understandings that are important for carrying out stewardship responsibilities.	Recommendation is to the TK/IQ Panel or their community organizations. DDMI does not select Panel participants but could request community organizations to include women participants, as recommended by the Panel.	Not Accepted
4.1.5	Checking Nets, 23-25 October 2012, pg.20	Extend length of Panel sessions to 4 days.	Three days is not enough to review documents, learn about the context of the topic(s) and share new knowledge. The fourth day is key to completing the review and verification necessary to respectfully document knowledge and develop a complete document that all parties are happy with.	A longer meeting is supported, provided that it results in an approved set of transcripts and recommendations by the end of the session.	Accepted



TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
4.1.6	Checking Nets, 23-25 October 2012, pg.21	Include Aboriginal words or terms in reports as appropriate. Keep wording in reports simple and make summary notes available soon after a meeting.	Some Aboriginal languages include concepts that are very precise and reflect a more complete understanding than what can be translated. Language contains distinct concepts unique to TK so the spiritual premise of certain terms contained within the language can often get lost in translation. Plain language should be used so that all people can understand it, regardless of their language or reading skills. It is important for participants to review their words and make sure they were recorded and/or interpreted correctly while the words are still fresh in participant's minds.	TK/IQ Panel members should work with their interpreters and the facilitators to ensure that important Aboriginal words or terms are captured within transcripts and/or reports. Diavik makes efforts to report the results of their programs in different ways, for different audiences.	Accepted
4.1.7	Checking Nets, 23-25 October 2012, pg.21	An Aboriginal facilitator would be of benefit to the TK/IQ Panel.	Panel meetings should be organized in a way that fits with the Aboriginal way of knowing. This leads to improved communication, interpretation and understanding of the value of participants messages.	Diavik sees value in having an Aboriginal facilitator involved in the TK/IQ Panel sessions, provided that this approach continues to be supported by Panel members.	Accepted
4.2.1	Working Together, 23-25 October 2012, pg.8	Develop a TK/IQ Panel manual that would be regularly revised to reflect the Panel's process, topics and lessons learned over time.	There are few models for this type of organization or work so it is important to document the Panel's mandate, protocols and procedures. This approach should be recorded in an effort to develop best practices and learn from challenges. Panel facilitators would be responsible for updating the document, for review and verification by Panel members.	Diavik supports the development of, and on-going updates to a TK/IQ Panel Manual. Discussions relating to Panel priorities and schedule should also be included in such a document.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
5.6	Closure Reclamation & Landscape History Interim Report, 19-22 February 2013, pg.6	Identify opportunities for Aboriginal participation in closure activities.	The TK/IQ Panel identified landscaping, planting, design and experiments as ideal for Aboriginal participation. Training youth to assist with site activities at closure will be important.	Diavik expects that the majority of closure activities will be completed by Aboriginal people and companies, and plans to work with communities over the next few years to identify and realize such opportunities.	Accepted
5.7	Closure Reclamation & Landscape History Interim Report, 19-22 February 2013, pg.6	Engage the TK/IQ Panel in preparations for Elder programs at the mine site.	Panel members see an opportunity for them to assist with defining discussion topics, seeking input on how to prepare Elders and make full use of the visit and how to respectfully document their observations. The Panel can also advise on proper methods for Elder care during such site visits.	Diavik is currently re-evaluating its approach to community engagement with communities. There may also be an opportunity for the TK/IQ Panel to assist with this process.	Accepted
5.8	Closure Reclamation & Landscape History Interim Report, 19-22 February 2013, pg.6	Ensure experts are available to TK/IQ Panel members as needed, based on discussion topics.	It is important for Panel members to have access to technical and/or scientific experts for the topics being discussed, so that they can learn as much information as possible and therefore make informed recommendations. Such an approach supports the cross-cultural learning style that the Panel follows and allows for quicker progress.	Diavik views this approach as beneficial as well, and has supported the Panel with such expertise in the past.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
EMAB-1	Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board TK/IQ Panel Recommendations from February 2013, Letter from EMAB, 8 Oct 2013, pg.2	EMAB feels that Diavik is proceeding in the right direction in working towards answers to these and other questions but recommends that DDMI conduct on-site workshops or community consultations or a combination of both. When this work is completed then EMAB will review the results and if necessary we will convene the TK/IQ Panel in order to review the process, methodology, and results.	References DDMI questions posed by DDMI at the February TK/IQ Panel session relating to NCRP shape, reclamation of roads & laydowns, and revegetation.	October 2013 TK/IQ Panel session was at the mine site. Diavik consults with communities through Closure Working Groups and public meetings held within the communities. In accordance with a letter received on 7 August 2013, EMAB gave Diavik permission to administer the TK Panel.	Not Accepted
7.13	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Complete the TK literature review report so that it can be used as a guide in the vegetation program and closure plan, and be available to communities.	As previously suggested by the Panel, there is value in compiling the existing TK that has been captured by community or company research in the past. Much of this information was compiled prior to Session 7, but a report was not completed. The Panel would like to see a complete report.	Diavik supports the completion of the literature review report that was initiated for TK Panel Session 7.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
7.17	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Have a women's only session in the field next summer to address vegetation and other issues of interest to them.	Some Panel members felt that there would be a benefit to holding a 'women's only' session in the future, as this may create a more acceptable space for sharing the knowledge that is specific to women.	Diavik's preferred approach, that has also been supported by Panel members, is to focus on creating an opportunity for women to participate in the TK Panel sessions on a regular basis, rather than holding specific women only sessions for certain topics. There is important knowledge that women have to share on all topics.	Accepted
7.18	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Diavik must meet its commitments to support a minimum of two TK Panel sessions a year.	Panel members felt that momentum is necessary to keep the Panel engaged and not have to start from scratch every time they meet. Participants recognize the number of topics and discussions that should occur prior to closure, and that this will take time.	Diavik is committed to the TK Panel and supports meeting on a regular basis. However, the number of meetings per year is not seen to be as important as making sure that we have the right information available to share and that session topics are relevant to the most current closure considerations. For example, during 2015, many TK Panel members were involved in multiple meetings for the AEMP TK Study, making it difficult to arrange a TK Panel session during the summer.	Not Accepted
7.19	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	TK panel members need to verify TK recommendations with elders back home.	Panel members feel that the results of each session are important to be shared with Elders in their respective communities. While Diavik has a role to play in doing this as well, Panel members felt that they also have a responsibility to discuss each session outcome with respected Elders on a more informal basis, and incorporate any feedback they receive into future Panel sessions.	Diavik encourages Panel members to informally share what they learned and recommended with their elders and organizations back home. Any feedback they receive can be shared with the Panel during the recommendations review in the next session.	Not Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
7.20	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Require one male and one female member from each community organization on the TK Panel (or formal alternates); where possible, members must know the LDG area (directed to Aboriginal governments).	Panel members recognize the different knowledge that males and females have, and that both types of knowledge must be recognized and incorporated into the TK Panel closure planning process. While there has been much success in keeping Panel members consistent over time (in an effort to build knowledge and familiarity with the mine and its closure plans), past participants have only been males. Incorporating females into the Panel will result in a change in Panel membership in the near future, but the value and depth of knowledge this change would bring is more important to Panel members than maintaining consistency of past membership.	Diavik has incorporated this recommendation into the meeting notifications sent to the community organizations that arrange for their member participants. It is ultimately the community organization's decision of who to send, so we encourage TK Panel members to also relay their recommendation in person to their community's staff.	Accepted
7.21	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Formalize our recommendations to Aboriginal governments to have youth participate.	All participants recognize the important role that youth play as future custodians of the land. Because of this, it is important that they are included in the closure planning process now, so that they are educated, aware and able to contribute to decisions made that will impact future generations.	Diavik has incorporated this recommendation into the meeting notifications sent to the community organizations that arrange for their member participants. It is ultimately the community organization's decision of who to send, so we encourage TK Panel members to also relay their recommendation in person to their community's staff.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
7.22	Re-vegetation Report, TK Panel Session #7, 14-18 August 2014	Celebrate our TK Panel as a model for other mining companies.	Panel members are happy with the work they are doing. They recognize how unique the Panel is, and the opportunity it provides to contribute to future planning. Seeing the importance of learning from what works, it is felt that the process and results the Panel has developed should be shared with others.	The results of the Panel's sessions are shared widely within the NWT. Panel session reports are provided as part of DDMI's annual closure updates to the WLWB, and this is shared more broadly with all reviewers on the WLWB distribution list. The process and results that you have produced to date are being noticed and celebrated.	Accepted
8.29	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Explore long term monitoring options including how to coordinate and administer an ongoing post-2030 program that continues to integrate TK and science and involves both Elders and youth trained in science. (Consider funding, and if some of the bond can be used).	TK Panel members are very interested in continuing to monitor the land and water in the Lac de Gras area after the mine is closed. Panel members are interested in exploring options for doing such work and determining how best to organize and fund such an initiative. There is a strong interest from the Elders to make sure that the youth of today are the future monitors for this work, which requires early involvement as well as capacity building in scientific and TK environmental monitoring.	While communities may be interested in monitoring past 2030, Diavik needs to plan for ultimate closure and relinquish ownership of the property back to the government. Once this is complete, monitoring would no longer be conducted or organized by Diavik. As such, any long-term monitoring plans past 2030 would need to be funded and coordinated by other parties. DDMI suggests that this recommendation is better directed to community organizations and/or governments.	Accepted



TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
8.31	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Continue to provide the TK Panel with teaching and communication 'tools' (i.e. videos, books, photos), to share progress and findings on closure planning with communities.	Panel members felt that information and materials that they can have and use to communicate with other Elders and people in their home communities are helpful to show the progress and importance of the work they are doing and knowledge they are sharing. Items like the AEMP TK Study videos and copies of reports are good.	Diavik continues to provide the Panel and their associated community organizations with reports, videos, maps, pictures or other materials that assist in sharing the work and success of the Panel. Further guidance as to what is helpful and effective for Panel members to use in communicating with others would be appreciated.	Accepted
8.32	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Plan for climate change hundreds of years into the future.	There is concern that climate change will affect performance of some mine infrastructure and inadvertently impact the environment, for example by release of contaminated water. As such, Panel members want to make sure that climate change scenarios are considered in closure design and planning work in order to protect the environment long into the future.	Accepted climate change scenarios have been incorporated in to the planning models that guide design and construction decisions for site infrastructure. This includes planning for long-term performance after closure.	Accepted
8.33	Reefs & Monitoring Water Report, TK Panel Session #8, 2-4 December 2015	Re-seed land and use dirt and <i>safe</i> sewage to facilitate re-growth.	As discussed in Session 7 on Revegetation, Panel members are interested in re-seeding the land around the mine to help plants grow back, but it should only be northern species that are used. A change from Session 7 is that Panel members are open to the idea of using human sewage from the on-site treatment plant as fertilizer, provided that Diavik can demonstrate that it is safe to do so (for animal and human health).	Treated sewage is currently stored on site, with plans to use it as a soil amendment to aid in reclamation activities. Diavik is working to determine if the treated sewage is considered safe from an animal and human health perspective.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
9.9	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Contribute to training community monitors in using both traditional knowledge and western science so that common approaches across communities are used and results can be pulled together from many places.	The Panel felt that it is important to support capacity building for community members to actively participate in the closure process, particularly closure monitoring. They recognize that strength in monitoring can be achieved when western science (WS) and TK are conducted together. There is also value to ensuring that the similar techniques and methods are used across industry and communities so that this information is comparable.	Diavik provides site-based training to new hires and contributes to formal training programs through the Mine Training Society and support for the Aurora College BEAHR environmental monitor training program, as well as the College's Environmental Monitor Certification program. If it is necessary to revise or expand existing training programs to meet the needs of closure monitoring, Diavik suggests that this is best coordinated through these professional training institutes. DDMI also provides scholarship funding to community members through their PA's. Diavik suggests that the communities themselves are best suited to provide training in monitoring using Traditional Knowledge.	Accepted
9.11	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Recognizing that Aboriginal communities are committed to their traditional responsibility to take care of the environment, participate with Diavik and other partners (e.g. Dominion Diamonds) to explore ideas and develop capacity to establish a Cumulative Effects Monitoring and Management Station (CEMMS) using the TK camp as a base that has program links to the GNWT Daring Lake Research Station.	The Panel viewed the TK camp as an ideal base for studying the Lac de Gras area after the mine was closed. The GNWT's Daring Lake Research Station is also in a good position to further support such research and the Panel saw value in coordinating efforts with the Government's programs at Daring Lake. In order to achieve this, the Panel identified the need for mines, government and other regulators to work together to determine how best to coordinate and implement a CEMMS (or similarly structured) program.	Diavik intends to continue its scientific monitoring programs through the closure phase. Diavik also encourages the Panel to develop a TK Monitoring Program for the Diavik site. While there are no formal plans for how or who would coordinate regional monitoring in the future, or where to base such monitoring initiatives, Diavik expects that any such regional program would build upon the existing site-specific programs to ensure that similar information is collected to evaluate trends over time.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
9.12	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	In partnership with communities and the GNWT, begin planning a joint TK and WS monitoring program that would begin in 2023 to be ready for implementation in 2025 by building on and expanding the current Diavik monitoring program.	Panel members consider intergenerational plans and programs, recognizing that there is a need for long-term monitoring in the Lac de Gras region long after the mining companies are gone. Given that it can take time to coordinate these types of programs, the Panel sees value in starting these discussions now so that plans are in place for when the Diavik mine is closed.	Diavik intends to continue its scientific monitoring programs through the closure phase. Diavik also encourages the Panel to develop a TK Monitoring Program for the Diavik site. While there are no formal plans for how or who would coordinate regional monitoring in the future, Diavik expects that any such regional program would build upon the existing site-specific programs to ensure that similar information is collected to evaluate trends over time.	Accepted
9.13	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Offer monitor training to provide traditional land users with new skills and techniques to monitor from mine closure through to when Diavik completely leaves the site (expected to be 2030) and beyond for long term monitoring.	The Panel felt that it is important to support capacity building for community members to actively participate in the closure process, particularly closure monitoring. They recognize that strength in monitoring can be achieved when western science (WS) and TK are conducted together.	Diavik provides site-based training to new hires and contributes to formal training programs through the Mine Training Society and support for the Aurora College BEAHR environmental monitor training program, as well as the College's Environmental Monitor Certification program. If it is necessary to revise or expand existing training programs to meet the needs of closure monitoring, Diavik suggests that this is best coordinated through these professional training institutes. DDMI also provides scholarship funding to community members through their PA's.	Accepted
9.15	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Design monitoring training with the objective of understanding what is happening in the eco-system with cumulative effects.	Communities are most concerned about cumulative impacts to the Lac de Gras region. For this reason, monitoring should focus on cumulative effects.	Existing scientific monitoring training programs focus on techniques that evaluate the state of the environment and contribute to understanding cumulative effects through the analysis of the data collected.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
9.16	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Employ community monitor trainees and ensure they have a meaningful role in the design of various aspects of closure work, including the building of wildlife ramps; the reclamation of the PKC, the North Inlet and contaminated sites; and any re-vegetation work on site.	It is important to the Panel to have community members employed on site and participating in healing the land and ensuring a safe environment for future use by wildlife and humans.	Diavik has and will continue to focus on employing people from the PA communities at the mine site. This includes the closure work identified by the Panel. We also see value in incorporating community members in inspecting and evaluating reclamation work in relation to the objectives and plans for each area, whether this be the TK Panel or other community representatives and we are hopeful this will form a part of the site-specific TK monitoring plan.	Accepted
9.17	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Employ and ensure opportunities for high level employment/career advancement of trained community monitors (graduates of the training program) funded by Diavik and/or others. In addition to community members, a minimum of one Elder and one youth from each community should participate in the training program.	It is important that community members have meaningful jobs at the mine, throughout the closure process.	Diavik has and will continue to focus on employing people from the PA communities at the mine site. This includes closure monitoring identified by the Panel. We also see value in incorporating community members in inspecting and evaluating reclamation work in relation to the objectives and plans for each area, whether this be the TK Panel or other community representatives and we are hopeful this will form a part of the site-specific TK monitoring plan.	Accepted
9.21	Focus on Caribou, TK Panel Session #9, 13-16 May 2016	Support the focus of long term monitoring goals for cumulative effects (CEMMS) on natural re-vegetation, return of caribou and other wildlife, and water quality in the Lac de Gras area.	The Panel is hopeful that Diavik recognizes the importance of contributing to long-term, regional monitoring that will continue after the mine is closed.	Diavik intends to continue its scientific monitoring programs through the closure phase. Diavik also encourages the Panel to develop a TK Monitoring Program for the Diavik site. While there are no formal plans for how or who would coordinate regional monitoring in the future, Diavik expects that any such regional program would build upon the existing site-specific programs to ensure that similar information is collected to evaluate trends over time.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
10.11	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCR, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Some start-up watching projects might look at: - what plants are growing on disturbed ground and why/why not; - presence of grounds squirrels on the East Island; - health of the shorebirds on the water (as an indicators for health of water); - snow accumulation and natural revegetation around boulders atop the test pile; - watch and monitor dust impacts on water and plants as an important part of the food chain; - animal scat, this should be part of a TK Watching program; - look at possible impacts on plants, with special consideration for those used for medicine.	The TK Panel is interested in starting to identify the types of things that are of interest to elders and youth to monitor. They recognize that more time and discussion is needed to build on these ideas and confirm what and how to watch the area, but that it is but that it is important to start documenting what has been shared to date.	Diavik is interested in further discussions for TK/community-based monitoring programs that can support or enhance other (western) scientific monitoring programs that will be conducted at the site.	Accepted
10.12	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCR, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Pair every adult with a youth monitor. Scientists should also be involved. Consider the TK camp as a good model, bringing elders and youth together with scientists.	The TK Panel members see great value in mentoring youth and advocate for including youth in TK programs wherever possible. The TK Panel recognizes that people learn from one another and respect the different kinds of knowledge that each person contributes. They view this as a good model to carry forward for closure monitoring.	Recognizing that there are still many details to work out in relation to closure planning and monitoring, Diavik is generally supportive of an approach that involves Elders, youth and scientists working together.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
10.13	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Ideally, watching would occur all year round. At a minimum, watching must occur in all seasons.	The land and animals behave differently depending on the season. There are important indicators to watch throughout the seasons and year to make sure that the land and animals are healthy. Panel members are interested in watching programs that would occur across all seasons.	Recognizing that there are still many details to work out in relation to closure planning and monitoring, Diavik is generally supportive of this approach.	Accepted
10.14	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Watchers should be trained by trained monitors from existing guardianship programs (e.g. Ni Hat'ni Dene, Tlicho, Dehcho). From there, trained watchers will train new watchers through a pay-it-forward model.	Existing guardianship programs are celebrated as good models from which to learn. The next step will be to determine how best to apply their practices, resources, and support systems. Collaboration and sharing are keys to success.	Diavik's understanding of existing Guardianship programs is that they are largely organized and operated by community organizations. It is important to continue discussing this model to determine what role Diavik and others may play in such an approach; e.g. funding agreement for Guardianship program, in-kind donations, program coordination, etc.	Accepted
10.15	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Be designed for long term watching/monitoring as impacts may take a long time to show up (i.e. a plant may look healthy now but in the future it may not be strong if dust or contaminated water affect it).	Community members understand that nature has great power to heal, but that this can take a long time. The TK Panel wants to be sure that there are plans in place for long term watching and monitoring so that they can be confident that closure was successful and the land is healthy again.	Recognizing that there are still many details to work out in relation to closure planning and monitoring, Diavik is generally supportive of this approach and is interested in continuing discussions with communities and regulators to determine a suitable approach for this type of work.	Accepted



TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
10.16	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Watch and check everything (water, wildlife, birds, bugs, small mammals, plants, weather, etc.).	The TK Panel is interested in starting to identify the types of things that are of interest to elders and youth to monitor. They recognize that more time and discussion is needed to build on these ideas and confirm what and how to watch the area, but that it is but that it is important to start documenting what has been shared to date.	Diavik is interested in further discussions for TK monitoring programs that can support or enhance other (western) scientific monitoring programs that will be conducted at the site.	Accepted
10.17	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Ensure long-term, ongoing and significant funding.	Funding and resources are important to secure when planning for long-term watching programs. The Panel recognizes that more discussions are required to determine how best to secure and maintain funding for this type of work.	Recognizing that there are still many details to work out in relation to closure planning and monitoring, Diavik is generally supportive of this approach and is interested in continuing discussions with communities and regulators to determine a suitable framework to support this type of work.	Accepted
10.18	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Be grounded in strong communication and traditional laws around sharing, exchanging and stories.	Collaboration and sharing are the keys to success. Watching programs should be structured to include opportunities for sharing the rich stories that tell the history of the land and enrich monitoring outcomes. Scenarios that encourage sharing should be strongly supported.	Recognizing that there are still many details to work out in relation to closure planning and monitoring, Diavik is generally supportive of this approach and is interested in continuing discussions with communities and regulators to determine a suitable framework for this type of work.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
10.19	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Start training for watching programs during mine operations by inviting community members to site, i.e. train-the-trainer program. For example, bring up people to work with Environment dept, starting with one weekend a month and scaling up over time.	The Panel recognizes the benefit of training monitors now in order to carry forward those skills for closure and post- closure monitoring at Diavik and other sites. The Panel is supportive of community monitors that are able to work in both worlds of knowledge - traditional and western scientific.	Diavik currently invites and involves community members in some of their on-site monitoring however, it is largely program-specific. Additionally, we have had community members as employees throughout operations. Diavik will evaluate options for community assistants on some weekends. We also continue to support and encourage participation in the BEAHRs Environmental Monitoring program and the Environment and Natural Resources Technology Program offered through Aurora College.	Accepted
10.20	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Diavik should support and encourage the TK Panel to assess and review existing monitoring methods and results to help us determine what and how we should monitor in the future.	The Panel focuses on closure planning and monitoring, but they are also interested in Diavik's operational monitoring and would like to learn more about monitoring programs, methods and results in order to determine if they are suitable for closure monitoring and, if so, how best to apply these to closure.	Diavik supports the TK Panel in this work. We have previously engaged the Facilitators for the TK Panel to compile some examples of TK and other monitoring to assist the Panel in developing ideas for monitoring at Diavik. We have also dedicated some of the past TK Panel sessions to monitoring and continue to plan for future sessions on this as well.	Accepted
10.21	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Encouraging all of the communities working together and supporting each other long into the future will give us strength. Diavik has helped us do this and we must continue into the future.	The collaborative approach that the TK Panel has developed has been effective for all parties to learn and understand everyone's interests, views, ideas and limitations in relation to Traditional Knowledge, the mine and planning for the future.	Diavik views this as a recommendation to the TK Panel members and community organizations. We are pleased that the Panel recognizes the efforts we have undertaken to encourage collaborative work.	Not Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
10.22	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Diavik should plan to leave some buildings (and possibly the airstrip) to support Watching Programs for this and other mines in the surrounding area.	In order to conduct a watching program in the mine area long after closure, it would be helpful to have some buildings present that could be used for accommodation and monitoring activities. Communities will be interested in visiting and observing the area long after the mines are gone.	Diavik is aware of the Panel's interest in having some buildings or infrastructure remain. Options for this will continue to be discussed with communities and regulators. Liability concerns and maintenance requirements may preclude some areas/buildings from being left but we understand that this is important in the North.	Accepted
10.23	Watching/Monitoring and the WRSA-SCRP, Session #10, 14-18 September 2017	Diavik should support the development of a 'best practices' document that explains the Panel's approach to integrating TK into mine closure planning.	The TK Panel is proud of their cooperative efforts to ensure that TK informs mine closure planning in a meaningful and transparent way. The TK Panel is interested in summarizing and sharing their knowledge and approach with others, in hopes that others considering projects in the north of elsewhere can benefit either now or in the future.	Diavik is generally supportive of this idea, though we also think that the Panel's presentations and reports do a good job of summarizing the process and principles that underly the Panel's recommendations and guidance. Something like this may be more valuable further in the future, once closure plans advance and more is learned about how to practically apply these recommendations and guidance.	Accepted
11.7	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel recommends a future TK Panel session dedicated to the health of the North Inlet upon closure and to decide if there is anything to address with the sediments.	The TK Panel is very interested in water quality and wants to focus a session on the North Inlet as a key area to monitor.	Diavik will dedicate a TK Panel session to the North Inlet Closure Plan.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
11.8	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The Panel requests that Diavik provide a list of items/equipment that will remain and be removed from underground before flooding or filling the mine with PK/water.	The TK Panel wants to better understand what might remain in the pit in terms of how this waste may affect water, fish and the nature of the pit upon closure. The TK Panel embraces their stewardship role to make sure that waste is not left behind.	Diavik is developing this list with the Inspector based on what was done previously at Ekati; it will be provided to the Panel when complete.	Accepted
11.9	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel recommends that their members are present for at least some of the time when the slimes are moved from the PKC into the A418.	The TK Panel suggested that the PK should be monitored for a time before the dikes are breached to ensure the PK is as expected.	Diavik has made development of TK-Based assessment of pit lake conditions with deposition of PK a priority and expects to address at Session 12 - September 2019.	Not Accepted
11.10	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel wants to monitor how water behaves when placed on PK. They would like to see the PK and water in the A418 as soon as it is safe to do so and when there is a good visual of the material, as well as at regular intervals afterwards.	The TK Panel suggested that the PK should be monitored for a time before the dikes are breached to ensure the PK is as expected.	Diavik has made development of TK-Based assessment of pit lake conditions with deposition of PK a priority and expects to address at Session 12 - September 2019.	Accepted
11.11	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel recommends that they monitor the fish habitat within the pits, shoreline modifications (e.g., ramps) for wildlife as well as the stability of the dikes on a regular and ongoing basis.	The TK Panel suggested that the PK should be monitored for a time before the dikes are breached to ensure the PK is as expected.	Diavik has made development of TK-Based assessment of pit lake conditions with deposition of PK a priority and expects to address at Session 12 - September 2019.	Accepted
11.12	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel recommends that they monitor freeze-up and break-up within the contained areas (i.e., within the dikes) to see if the formation and melting is any different—with a view towards safety for people and wildlife.	The TK Panel suggested that the PK should be monitored for a time before the dikes are breached to ensure the PK is as expected.	Diavik has made development of TK-Based assessment of pit lake conditions with deposition of PK a priority and expects to address at Session 12 - September 2019.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
11.13	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel would like to see the PK vegetation plots again.	The TK Panel is particularly interested in seeing "with their own eyes" how revegetation is working.	Accept. Can be done during any TK Panel Session.	Accepted
11.14	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel recommends that we test slimes/PK in a fish tank to see if any water plants would grow on the PK.	The TK Panel discussed ways of minimizing the suspension of PK once it is put in the underground/pit ranging from installing screens to covering pit walls to adding soil, sediment or aquatic vegetation to try to stabilize the lake bottom.	Diavik does not accept this recommendation as aquatic vegetation is not expected to occur at over 100m of water depth due to light limitations.	Not Accepted
11.15	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel would like to see wind behaviour on water within the contained pits/dikes over a period of time (i.e. throughout all seasons).	Concerns were expressed about the effects of wind on the pit areas at closure, particularly nowadays with climate change and winds becoming stronger.	Diavik suggests the collection of video during different periods of wind behaviour would be a better method for making these observations; videos could be presented at the TK Panel Sessions.	Accepted
11.16	Options for Processed Kimberlite, TK Panel Session #11, 10-14 May 2018	The TK Panel would like to see wind behaviour on Lac de Gras in and around the dikes. [How is the water on the outside of the dikes and breach areas affected by wind?]	Concerns were expressed about the effects of wind on the pit areas at closure, particularly nowadays with climate change and winds becoming stronger.	Diavik suggests the collection of video during different periods of wind behaviour would be a better method for these observations; videos could be presented at the TK Panel Sessions.	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
12.3	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	The TK Panel needs to be on site to witness transfer of slimes and filling the pits with water (i.e., two TK Panel sessions).	Feeling comfortable with any approach is difficult for people given environmental uncertainties and the complexities of mine closure processes. This challenge of 'feeling comfortable' applies to pit closure regardless of whether they contain PK. Panelists affirmed the importance of balancing scientific information with traditional knowledge so that a greater understanding informs pit closure planning. As always, people reiterated the importance of "seeing with their own eyes" so that they feel comfortable with what is happening during mine closure.	If Diavik receives approval to deposit PK in mine workings and if Diavik determines that it is feasible/practical to also move EFPK ("slimes") to the mine workings, Diavik will accommodate the request of the TK Panel to witness the transferring of slimes into the pit. Regardless of the presence of PK and slimes in the pits, Diavik will accommodate the request of the TK Panel to witness the filling of the pits with water.	Not Accepted
12.5	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Ensure scientific tests are done every season and throughout the year to understand the health of the water and to compare water in the pits to water in Lac de Gras. Scientific water testing should include, but not be limited to temperature, turbidity, clarity, colour. The presence of micro-organisms should be measured as well as oxygen levels. Such tests should be done at various depths in the water column as far down as the PK. The results should be regularly shared with the TK Panel.	When it comes to water, the TK Panel discussed the importance of science to first identify if the water is healthy before people would like to test water quality by tasting. People are familiar with scientific water quality monitoring and discussed the importance of measurements to determine whether the water is safe for fish and animals. Small "bugs" in the water are also important for fish and need to be measured to know whether the water is healthy. The TK Panel don't want the dikes to be breached until there was enough food in the water for them. It is important that scientific testing take place throughout all seasons and at multiple depths in the water column. TK Panel members want to make sure that results are shared widely with community members.	If Diavik receives approval to deposit PK in mine workings and if Diavik determines that it is feasible/practical to also move EFPK ("slimes") to the mine workings, Diavik will accommodate the request of the TK Panel to witness the transferring of slimes into the pit. Regardless of the presence of PK and slimes in the pits, Diavik will accommodate the request of the TK Panel to witness the filling of the pits with water. Diavik currently conducting Cultural use WQ criteria workshops.	Accepted



TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
12.6	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Diavik should collect baseline information on Lac de Gras from around the dikes so that impacts of breaching can be measured. The TK Panel should work with scientists to record ice thickness, wind behaviour and snow-drifting before and after dikes are breached.	Members of the TK Panel worry that plans today won't accommodate changes tomorrow. Scientific monitoring of these key indicators must be carried out for several years in order for panelists to feel comfortable with the results and to support any breaching of the dikes.	Baseline info existing through AEMP Program.	Accepted
12.7	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	The TK Panel would like Diavik to test water in the pits for at least two years (until the water is deemed good) and compare this to water in Lac de Gras. Water samples will be collected from multiple depths at various times throughout each year and tested according to the AEMP protocols. Taste tests will be done after scientific sampling tells us the water is drinkable where they will watch for smell, clarity (turbidity), temperature, colouration, scum on the water or tea, and water and tea for taste.	The TK Panel agreed that the water and fish must be deemed "safe" from a scientific perspective before any traditional knowledge tasting tests can occur. Watching water according to traditional knowledge is well understood by the TK Panel members who have worked hard to develop protocols being used at the AEMP TK Camp. These protocols should be used for ongoing monitoring on-site both within the pits and outside the dikes in Lac de Gras. Panelists expect that the water within the pits will smell differently when there is PK rather than natural sediments and want to make sure there is enough time for settling to occur.	Per EA measure 2, DDMI is conducting cultural use water quality criteria workshops to inform criteria for dike breaching. Recent model updates indicate that if water conditions are good sooner than two years, better to breach earlier rather than later (to avoid concentration build-up).	Accepted
12.13	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Install motion activated cameras around the dikes to monitor wildlife activity to see if birds and animals are trying to access pit water. Test animals if possible through non-invasive methods. Any dead animals should be tested for contaminants. Report all findings to communities and the TK Panel.	The TK Panel generally supports monitoring approaches that are gentle and cause the least disturbance to the land, air, water, fish and animals. Innovative and non-invasive monitoring approaches are preferred. Monitoring according to TK can be carried out in ways that minimize disturbance.	DDMI currently has cameras historically used for grizzly bear DNA program. Need to determine expected goal (presence/absence?).	Accepted

TK Panel Recommendations Sessions #1 to 12: Monitoring & General

NUMBER	REFERENCE	RECOMMENDATION	CONTEXT	DDMI RESPONSE	Status
12.14	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Monitor plant life, sediments and bugs in the water within the pits in the spring (after break-up), summer, and fall (before freeze-up) through our own eyes. Combine this with scientific test results. Further discussion is needed to detail this monitoring approach.	In-person and on-the-ground monitoring is important so people can feel comfortable.	Per EA measure 2, DDMI is conducting cultural use water quality criteria workshops to inform criteria for dike breaching.	Accepted
12.15	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Develop details of monitoring programs (including training and employment) and action plans for community members. Expand the aquatic effects monitoring program and camp to include the TK Panel and a base for TK monitoring as one step in this plan.	In-person and on-the-ground monitoring is important so people can feel comfortable.	DDMI's general plan is to develop a monitoring program with a TK component, alongside western science; AEMP is expected to be modified for closure per cultural water quality workshop outcomes	Accepted
12.16	Options for Pit Closure, TK Panel Session #12, 12-16 September 2019	Develop an online location where all TK Panel materials will be stored and made accessible. Request that EMAB host these on their website. Communications presentations should be developed and uploaded so that they can be used by TK Panel members within their communities.	The TK Panel discussed the importance of their work reaching a broader audience and the difficulties they experience in accessing reports from the TK Panel sessions.	Agreed	Accepted

## **APPENDIX E**

### **Session Transcription Notes**

1 TK Panel Session #15: Day One Transcription

2  
3 OPENING PRAYER

4  
5 INTRODUCTIONS

6  
7 AGENDA PRESENTATION

8  
9 **Brenda:** We are going to introduce Myra to do the group discussion on recommendations.

10  
11 PRESENTATION ON RECOMMENDATIONS

12  
13 **Brenda:** Now we will discuss the recommendations about Myra's presentation.

14  
15 **Barb:** First of all, who is the TK Panel, who approves these things? I heard near the end when  
16 you were talking to someone else that we are the ones that review these and approve them? Or  
17 who is the TK Panel that approves these?

18  
19 **Myra:** Excellent question. If you go through the recommendations, you will see that there are  
20 some similar recommendations about who makes up the TK panel. Over the years it has  
21 evolved.

22  
23 Where we are now is that it is made up the 5 Participation groups. Within those 5 groups there  
24 is a seat for a male elder, female elder, and a youth as well as translators to support. That is all  
25 that we officially have identified. And we work with the staff from all the groups to determine who  
26 comes. We encourage people to come back year after year because there is so much shared at  
27 these sessions, and you are building your knowledge as you come. You can go out to site and  
28 see how what you recommend influences our plans at site.

29  
30 Ultimately though it is the community that is making the decision about who comes. Sometimes  
31 it is the same people but sometimes it is someone new. That is often the case with the youth.  
32 There was a lot of information this morning.

33  
34 **Barb:** With vegetation the last time we were here there was a fella here and he had blonde hair  
35 or something. When I asked him if they were checking berries, he said no they weren't. He said  
36 they didn't check them. This closure recommendations they are working on, you want to show  
37 yourself as a role model and I asked him if he did plots to check the berries and he said he  
38 didn't, and I asked if they could start. I know it is late now, but Mary-Jane used to pick cloud  
39 berries and now she hardly sees them there. It worries me that these are stuff that we eat, we  
40 like to pick, all the blueberries, cranberries, blackberries, crowberries, cloud berries. Is that  
41 recommended to be started?

42  
43 **Myra:** I have 2 more presentations that I'd like to share with you but because I spoke so much  
44 this morning and we didn't have time to talk about the presentation. Once we have this  
45 discussion, we will go into the recommendations that we heard from April. That was one of them  
46 but yes that is something that we will consider for the TK Watching program in closure.

47  
48 **Barb:** The water that I'm worried about, it is probably in the recommendations that you said you  
49 are going to talk about? Okay, that's one of them.

51 **Myra:** Again, there was a big body of work that we reviewed, and it was a lot. If there are any  
52 questions find myself, or Gord. Sean will be on site tomorrow.

53  
54 **Barb:** Sean was the one I asked about the berries and the water. He said that he doesn't go to  
55 the site very often. Is that in the recommendations that he go to the site more often? He told us  
56 he was only at the site 2 or 3 times or something like that per year. Is it in the recommendations  
57 that we talked about last time?

58  
59 **Myra:** His role has changed, he used to be at site all the time. His job was at site. Now his role  
60 has switched to focus on closure, so he is in the office in Yellowknife, as am I. He does still go  
61 up periodically but his role has changed so that he isn't the one out doing the monitoring  
62 himself.

63  
64 **Barb:** Is someone else doing it?

65  
66 **Myra:** Oh absolutely, we have a team who are constantly actively monitoring different areas of  
67 the site. So, it doesn't have to be Sean, but we do have a team working on monitoring at the  
68 site. What I will do is show the recommendations from the past two panel sessions.

69  
70 PRESENTATION: DIAVIK'S RESPONSE TO TK PANEL SESSION 13 RECOMMENDATIONS

71  
72 **Barb:** With climate change happening, if you find new... oh nevermind!

73  
74 **Myra:** That is 13.4

75  
76 Presentation continues

77  
78 **Benjamin:** Do you monitor fish too at the Diavik site?

79  
80 **Myra:** The aquatic effects monitoring program is focused on fish and water from a science  
81 perspective. Then we have a camp that we go out to every 3 years.

82  
83 **Barb:** I want to say again that when a mine builds itself up and becomes a mine, they have to  
84 do everything from vegetation to the microbes in the water to the caribou. Every animal, every  
85 plant, they have to realize that it is really important to us because it is our land, and we need to  
86 take care of it. It is growing smaller by exploration and other things. I just wanted to say that  
87 they should monitor everything right from the microbes in the water or marsh right to caribou or  
88 whatever the animals are. It is something that is really important to us. If you want to be a role  
89 model to other mines that want to become a mine, you have to think about those things when  
90 you are planning closure. Even though it is late, do them while you are still at Diavik.

91  
92 **Myra:** Thank you Barb and we will go through the recommendations from last session where  
93 some of the issues you've raised are addressed there.

94  
95 PRESENTATION: DIAVIK'S RESPONSE TO TK PANEL SESSION 13 RECOMMENDATIONS

96  
97 **Benjamin:** Do you guys take care of the water too? Like if there is mercury in there?

98  
99 **Myra:** There is a very robust fish and water monitoring program that we follow. There are  
100 triggers that we watch and if those triggers are met then that requires a certain response. So  
101 absolutely we look at all those things including mercury.

102  
103 PRESENTATION CONTINUES  
104

105 **Wayne:** Why is Diavik refusing to test the fish and the water further down from Lac De Gras like  
106 the Coppermine River? That is their source of drinking water, why not test it? Put a testing  
107 station halfway down.  
108

109 **Myra:** There is testing that happens at the mouth.  
110

111 **Wayne:** No, the outlet between Diavik and the river.  
112

113 **Gord:** We monitor at the end of Lac de Gras because that is where we can get the best tests. If  
114 we go further down, it is harder to determine any change that might come from Diavik.  
115

116 **Wayne:** Okay you convinced me.  
117

118 PRESENTATION CONTINUES  
119

120 **Myra:** Going through all of that, you'll see there was a number of similar recommendations.  
121

122 **Albert:** There is a question I want to ask. Now we are doing the monitoring around that mine  
123 area. It's not right that if only the mining employees and scientist are watching over there. It  
124 would be better if a community member was. How can we believe if something is going wrong? I  
125 think it will be hidden so we want our own community members to watch and come back to the  
126 community and tell the story of what he has seen. So, we want maybe from each community to  
127 have 1 person to do the monitoring, hire them. We should have 5 people, 1 from each  
128 community. We have more trust in our own people than in white man. This is what I recommend  
129 because this is our land and we don't want it to be destroyed. So, we don't want anything like to  
130 happen because we love our land. I want at least 1 individual from each community working at  
131 Diavik, all year round. Watch the caribou in the winter, watch the runoff in the spring and the  
132 birds that come.  
133

134 If they come back from work, they will have a meeting with the public and tell everyone what is  
135 happening. I would recommend we hire one from each community to work with Diavik. At  
136 closing. We heard a lot of information, and it is hard for Elders to consume all that information  
137 so now we have a great concern. Anytime there is a mine as Dene people we have great  
138 concern because we don't damage our land, so they have to tell us exactly what is going on  
139 when they work on our land.  
140

141 We want our community member to be working along side the environment people at the mine.  
142 Every time they write a recommendation it seems all is good [and] nothing is wrong, but that is  
143 not the case. We need to see it with our own eyes. If other people are telling us, we don't know  
144 if it is accurate or not. Like I said, the water used to be clear before the mine but now the water  
145 changed colours and the fish are less healthy, they are more skinny. The first time we did the  
146 fish tasting program, we set nets and collect the fish. We would fry it, cook it over the open fire  
147 and boil it. I had recommended that we don't fry the fish because it will destroy the taste of the  
148 fish. That is how we used to do it, that is how we monitor the fish is by looking at it. We know if it  
149 is not healthy. This is why I am really stressing that we have 1 person/community. That is how  
150 strongly I feel, more information will be coming up and I will say something then.  
151



**Myra:** Thank you Albert. That is exactly what we want to do with closure. We want community members to be making those observations from a community perspective. There will still be science monitoring being done and as part of the framework we shared with you in April. We would like a portion of that plan to include community members validating western science. But we also want community members watching from a community perspective so not western science, but from your perspective. Those are the things we want to understand so we can put them in writing and bring them to the board. But absolutely, as part of the western science monitoring there should be a community member validating what we are doing.

**Barb:** Back to 14.9, I still want to see the water tested in the Coppermine River. We need to know it is okay. It comes out of Lac de Gras, we should test it a little ways down from Lac de Gras. You said you don't test the Coppermine River, just the opening and closing. That is not testing the water to make sure that that water overtime isn't killing our people or making them sick or something. I just want to know that you are doing the monitoring, not only at the mouth of Lac de Gras but a little ways down. Just to make sure that our water is good for us, maybe it is making people sick. You don't know that, I don't know that. I really want to see the testing of the water a little ways down from Lac de Gras. Maybe a quarter mile down.

**Gord:** We measure it in the river itself just down from where it leaves Lac de Gras. We measure it twice a year and have been for 20 something years. We can get you all of the data for that.

**Barb:** How does it look, good?

**Gord:** It looks very good, but we can see changes in the water that has resulted from Diavik and Ekati. But nothing that would cause affects to fish, people or wildlife. That is the best place to measure any change in the water that could affect Kugluktuk. That is why we measure it, for Kugluktuk.

**Barb:** Could you test it more than twice a year like when the water has just melted? And you can tell there all that dust that was collected in the fall before it freezes, when it is still snowing and stuff is blowing. Can you test it then, spring, summer and fall time? Maybe winter to see how fish are doing during that time too?

**Gord:** We do it in the winter when the flows are the lowest so the changes in the water are the biggest. Then we do it at the end of the summer so that anything that would have accumulated over the year is when that is best to measure. We can measure it other times but spring is a hard time to measure because it is hard to understand what is going on with the changing of the water. From a change perspective the best times are the times when we do it. That is why we do it then.

**Barb:** Why not let Kugluktuk know about the changes in the water, even if it is little? When you do a report, I would love to see Diavik show us water testing in the beginning of your mine up to now. Like how the water is now with both mines.

**Gord:** Happy to do that, the results are made available every year, but we are happy to come out and discuss that specifically.

**Barb:** Come visit us and say, "Sorry but your water is like this now".

**BREAK AND RAPID TESTING**

203 **Myra:** We want to talk about tomorrow.  
204

205 PRESENTATION ON LOGISTICS OF TRAVEL TO SITE TOMORROW  
206

207 **Kathy:** Wanted to say thank you to the Diavik team and the facilitation team for putting together  
208 these recommendations. It gives us a clearer idea of the recommendations we have put forth to  
209 close this mine. 76% is a good number especially since there were over 210. We have many,  
210 many more but these were the ones accepted, in the works, or completed. So, thank you to the  
211 Diavik team and the facilitators, to everyone here who worked so hard to put those  
212 recommendations together. To Diavik for considering them and looking to our Traditional ways  
213 to close this mine. Kudos to all of you.  
214

215 **Albert:** I'd like to say thank you myself there is a lot of work that we have to do towards the land,  
216 and I thank all the people that are working with us and the interpreters because there are a lot of  
217 us who wouldn't understand without them. So, it is very important that they are available. I'd like  
218 to thank everyone that is here, thank you.  
219

220 **Peter:** Any final questions or comments before we close for the afternoon?  
221

222 **Wayne:** I'd like to thank all the interpreters; you did a great job. And to everyone who attended  
223 here, we got a little bit done anyways. And thank the cook there for that really nice Sheppard's  
224 pie. I guess that's it for me. Game over.

1 TK Panel Session #15: Day Two Transcription

2  
3 OPENING PRAYER

4  
5 SITE TOUR

6  
7 DISCUSSION

8  
9 **Charlie (as translated by James):** (Inaudible) Aboriginal people loved the barren land so much  
10 they would come back every year and that is encouraging to the young people. So, continuation  
11 with the white fox trapping and all that and then eventually muskox, year after year things have  
12 changed. And since the caribou are dying down a little bit too, I guess (inaudible). This is why  
13 we are here. This tour here we've got is really so special we should have more Elders coming  
14 and then he says that how wonderful they are but next time they might not make it back here  
15 because of their age or whatever but he's so happy that he is here and so happy that he had  
16 two ladies, one from N'dilo and one Dettah cause age doesn't mean anything what's important  
17 is that they convey the message of what they see and what they've experienced in life. Because  
18 when they get to that age and knowing that the world is changing, and we have to adapt to it  
19 and all that. So that is why I am here, I have to convey my message to my grandchild. Hopefully  
20 in the future we should have more youth in the room too. And then all the Elders have their own  
21 message to the mining company about what they see here. Because there are a lot of changes,  
22 any development brings a lot of changes. You see a lot of natural land out here and you see a  
23 lot of the big monstrous waste rock pile, which to me is kind of an eye sore in a way, and  
24 probably is like that for the wildlife as well too.

25  
26 Personally, he says, maybe the land is kind of ruined for the animals and I for one don't think I'll  
27 hunt and trap in this area because well the fact that my life has kind of concluded because of my  
28 age but maybe in the future the younger generation may want to come [and] use the land over  
29 here. So, these are things that I'd like to send to the company and at the same time too  
30 hopefully we can encourage them to come to the mine and learn more and see what it is all  
31 about. And see if there is a way to adapt to the changes. We have to encourage them to feel  
32 comfortable, to know that the land is there to provide wealth and all that to use and all the  
33 animals on it. That is what he said was his personal comment.

34  
35 **Gord:** That is a great observation. There is no hiding that pile it's a big pile and will be a big pile  
36 forever. And the PKC is big pile, the best we can do is to make it safe so animals can go  
37 through it. I would respect the idea that you wouldn't come and hunt this land in the future. Why  
38 would you, there are many other places to go but we want to make sure the animals can get  
39 through here safely. That is our objective. It won't be the same landscape as it was in the past,  
40 but we are trying to make it safe.

41  
42 **Charlie:** Just the history, early on, all the people that travelled around this area for white fox. His  
43 grandchild used to be grand chief and his name was Eddie Joe Mackenzie. And he travelled  
44 around this area by dog team and the Lac de Gras area. So, he travelled around this area for  
45 white fox, he was alone travelling this area from Behchokq. Maybe some other people from  
46 Dettah did the same thing. He mentioned my dad was trapping and sometimes if he showed up  
47 with country food to feed their dogs and if they couldn't find any, he'd go meet up with the Inuit  
48 even with the language difference they would get together. And that is how they used to support  
49 one another, he thought he'd just mention all that. Somehow, we have to have some friendship.

51 **Barb:** I really liked the tour and liked seeing the vegetation and the plants out there, what did  
52 you say you planted it 11 years ago?

53  
54 **Brenda:** 18 years.

55  
56 **Gord:** She was a child back then (laughs).

57  
58 **Barb:** I know (laughs) I was just a little girl. What I'd like to see continue is watching these  
59 animals to make sure that they're using the area naturally and that they are going over eskers  
60 and stuff like that, keep track of them. And vegetation, I want to see more monitoring of the  
61 vegetation. I was really impressed with the tour, and Gord, and our bus driver, Jessie, thank you  
62 so much.

63  
64 **Vikki:** I enjoyed the tour; it is definitely different than the pictures.

65  
66 **Gord:** is it bigger or smaller than you imagined?

67  
68 **Vikki:** Bigger. I was joking with Nancy when we stopped at the pit. Look at how deep it is and  
69 how much damage just for diamonds. And she was just kind of joking, she said that these  
70 companies are just digging into the land for a piece of diamond to put on your ring or something.  
71 And also going to each stop I was able to listen to some of the Elders talk, I really enjoyed that. I  
72 got to hear more about how it operates at each of the stops.

73  
74 **Nancy:** I am so happy to come back and keep coming back. Especially when I can see what is  
75 working right and what is working great. First time I came, our land was so hurt, but getting  
76 closer to the closure I feel good to see what is working right and thankful for groups like this. If  
77 we don't work together, where would we be today. I am thankful for what Diavik is doing so  
78 other mines can learn from this. Just like only Diavik is doing the TK Panels, I have never heard  
79 others do it and there are so many mines here. So, I hope that they start doing the same thing,  
80 thank you.

81  
82 **Peter (as translated by Lena):** He is asking about the processed kimberlite area at the top of  
83 the hill, wondering about the water at the top of the pond there? From what I know about how  
84 they are going to do the containment for the processed kimberlite big boulders are supposed to  
85 be put there first and then you are supposed to keep it contained in a certain area. Is that the  
86 plan for that now?

87  
88 **Gord:** Maybe we can talk to this again tomorrow. But the plan is to put that rock across that flat  
89 area, this thick-.

90  
91 **Peter (as translated by Lena):** That should be worked on first so that the wildlife don't go  
92 through that area and damage or even kill the herd. Animals go all over, day or night, they have  
93 no limits.

94  
95 **Gord:** Right now, if a caribou went in there it would get stuck. But that is why we are here, Gord  
96 and his team, their job is to keep caribou away from there when they are on the island. But at  
97 closure it will be the same as the rock that is getting put on the north country rock pile, that  
98 smooth layer. It will be that same material all bulldozed out. But what we want to do is in places  
99 where we think caribou will want to come on, we can put big boulders to herd the caribou in a  
100 different direction from there.

**Lena:** (inaudible) The wildlife will get back to almost what it looked like, it never will be the same, but almost.

**Gord:** That is the plan, our job is to get it as close as possible.

**Peter (as translated by Lena):** I do have a concern about the fish in Lac de Gras, the fish camps that some other people have gone to and the one where we went to last August. When we looked at the trout it was so skinny, sick so maybe this lake has no food for them anymore because of maybe the activity here at the mine and the dust and everything. In the future, we want to see someone going to that camp every summer from now on, not every few years. Because you guys are closing from now all there should be a fish camp where people are checking the fish and checking the water. Those are the two most important things right now because this lake might have fish again in the future so if we start cleaning it up right now the water will be healthy with more oxygen in the water for plants to go and fish to feed on. So, I'm really worried about this lake, because it is a big lake, so maybe you guys can do the fish camp every summer instead of every few years.

**Lena:** I am glad that I came out here, it has been a long time, probably since the early 2000s. And when I went to the fish camp last summer, I really enjoyed myself but when I saw those grizzly bears I thought oh gosh look at those fences, they look so low, are they really strong enough? But anyways, I really enjoyed what we did and looking at those fish. I was really surprised because there is no food in that lake, and they were so long and skinny with big heads. It just looked like a deformed fish. I'd never seen one like that before, so I was kind of surprised. I took some pictures and showed them to people back home and then said, "I'll go next time, I'll go next time." So, you guys do have to make the camps every summer like Peter suggested. Because you are closing anyways so try to make the land as pristine as possible. Mahsi.

**Natisha:** Hello everyone, I am a new face, my name is Natisha Drygeese. If you guys know Ryan Miller who works for the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, I am Ryan today. I wish I could have come to all the TK Panels but unfortunately, we are low on capacity. I wanted to say that your remediation project that I see, you guys are doing a good job in comparison to other mines that I've gone to. Some of them are just big disasters so the way that your project is going, I am impressed. I am very impressed, especially with the kimberlite, you guys are doing a good job. I hope I can join more TK panels when we have more capacity. So, thank you for having me out for the day, mahsi.

**Mary-Jane (as translated by Lena):** This is my first time ever seeing the barren lands. This is my first trip up here. I have never been up here in my life. I'm getting older and when I asked my father about this area, he told us stories about himself when he would come up here to trap and he would have been 14 or 15 years old at the time trapping for arctic fox. And when I asked my dad what the barren ground looks like he said to me it looks flat and shiny, really nice with no trees. I am really happy to be here because it was the first time, I'd ever seen the barren grounds in my life.

**Monique (as translated by James):** Feeling kind of emotional because my late husband used to work with the team for many years, with the Elders panel and the company. He'd talk a lot about the mines to the younger generation and the employment here. Brought me a lot of good memories and good things back to the community. So, I really got to experience what he talked about so that made me a bit emotional. It is exactly how he talked about it. It is my turn now to take over where he left off and now, I have to do what I need to do on behalf of my community

and the people I represent as an Elder and then the message has to go back to my grandkids so they know what to expect when there is any industry developing in the area. I am happy to be with you.

She says my late husband passed away 2 years ago. I am kind of emotional in a way because he did this job with the panel and the mining company and now that I'm taking over. I am kind of new to the group here but am happy to be here. And one recommendation I can make is to have an Elder directly involved with the mining company and the executives and all that. It is important to include all the communities, we are all the same family and I hope we don't try to avoid one another for the benefit of the nations.

**Gord:** Hi, my name is Gord, small Gord. I am really grateful for the opportunity and to catch up with some really good friends I made at the TK camp. Really thankful to learn from some really knowledgeable people about the barren lands which I am a huge fan of. I first came up here in 2014 and fell in love with it so when I go the opportunity to work at Diavik it was a big deal for me, especially to work in the environment department and get to be part of the land and monitoring our effect on it. It means a lot to me, and it means a lot that we make the most out of Diavik and the positives that it can bring. I really value the relationships I've built with community members around the north, and I am really thankful that you guys let me be a part of it. So, thanks for coming and providing your wisdom and knowledge for all of us to learn from.

**Kathy:** I want to thank everyone who made this trip so comfortable and fun. You know, when we go up onto the dyke, I have a bit of fear about heights so when we first stopped "I kept saying, please turn that bus around. I don't want to be on that bus when you turn it around. But I made it through. But my greatest impression on this visit is the North Country Rock Pile and the work that has been done on that sloping. Last time I was here they had just completed the west end of that sloping, so we got to walk up that to see if it was a true 3:1 slope, and it was. It wasn't that wide but to see that they have done now is truly amazing so kudos to all those hard workers that did that. I wanted to see A21 but maybe on another trip. But thanks everybody I had lots of fun today and I'm glad I'm part of it.

**Wayne:** I'd just like to say thank you to Gordon and Sean for all the information you gave us on the bus and for the whole tour, it was very nice. They were both very informative about what had been done. I noticed, with the North Country Rock Pile, that the last time I was here was the same time as Kathy, so I was seeing the same new things that she was seeing and we were remarking about it as there has been a lot of work done. I just want to say thank you to Diavik for the tour and for everyone showing up. I want to say thank you to the bus driver for driving us around safely and hopefully we will make it to the airport. Also, I'd like to thank that one cook in the kitchen for the pizza. On that note I'll pass it over and thank you very much.

**Jessie:** This is my first time doing the tour. I am really happy your guys made it here. Just enjoying the stories of you guys and listening to your concerns. It is very amazing for you guys to come here and check out your input and thank you for coming.

**August:** I have been working with the Diavik for 10 years, I've been on a board since 1997 or 1998 since the mine was open. Once the mine was open there were lots of caribou, holy smokes there were thousands of them. They were coming back from the calving ground. I was surprised to see not many caribou. I'm not blaming the mine for the caribou being gone or not, but a lot of people blame the mine for the caribou going done. For me it's not like that. Anyway, when we visit, we talk about the closing parts like the rock pile. Some things have changed since the last time I was here. The boulders are down, way down far for me than I've ever seen



it. (inaudible). The caribou when they come around there they look for a big hill to lay down and stay away from other animals. (inaudible). Thank you very much.

**Brenda:** It's been a while, last time I was here it was 2017/18. I was here in November. I came down because I was offered a job underground so I came down here to do the tour and I went between Ekati and Diavik when they were going to go underground. That is when I came down here. And since that it's been 4 years and I have seen a lot of difference. The PK is higher than when I saw it. Where the kimberlites, when I was working around that area it wasn't that big. But when I saw it, I couldn't believe how big it is. That much damage we took out and that's very big for me. When they started off with the PK it wasn't that big, maybe the size of the building here. But now it is bigger and bigger. That is a lot of work that has been done and it is going to be a lot of work. A lot of boulders to cover it. So, half of the piles go back in?

**Gord:** Just re-sloped and covered.

**Brenda:** Okay, I was concerned about that too. I was really pleased with the vegetation. We plotted 18 years ago, and I didn't think it was going to work. I went back 3 years in a row and it was growing in one spot here, one spot there and so I lost interest in it in 3 years because I didn't think it was going to grow. But coming back 18 years and it really did, it's going to work. So that one part that you did, you did a good job on it. So marsi cho, you guys did an awesome job.

**Benjamin:** Thank you for having me here, this is my second time coming to Diavik. Last time I was here was around 2008 and we were doing caribou monitoring with some Elders. There were 4 of us. But I should be getting paid more than them because I was doing all the paperwork (laughs). So, thank you for having me here. I was honored to do the prayer for your guys to do the ceremony. I will pass on my message to my whole community in Wekweèti.

**Gord:** Maybe tomorrow, you are going out and doing the Boots on Ground program too, maybe tomorrow we can ask you about that because that is kind of what we are thinking about for here and use you as a bit of an expert tomorrow and ask you about what you will be doing this summer and think through what we might be able to do.

**Benjamin:** I was doing caribou monitoring at Mackay Lake. That was my first time on Mackay Lake, so I hadn't experienced what it had looked like. Mostly they told me there are no trees, straight rocks and flat ground. I was kind of surprised that a young fella like me was hired to go to this and ensure my Tłıchǵ people don't get charged. That was part of my job, to make sure that they aren't getting charged by ENR. We had the proof of what they harvested. Mackay Lake is not a place to go hunting all the time because it is dangerous. I heard that 3 or 2 people passed away in Mackay Lake. But that is what I do, it is my job to make sure my Tłıchǵ people properly go hunting and make sure they clean up after themselves. But this year my first time being a caribou monitor I saw a lot of muskox. They live out on the side there and it was kind of like our job to clean after them. And they left a whole bunch of woods and polls so we have to bring that back to Mackay Lake lodge for next year for whoever is going hunting so we can provide them woods again, so we left it for next year. I'm going to be going in July to Rayrock or Colomac Mine to do bear monitoring. I got hired to do that too so that will be July -September, in a 2-week rotation. I am grateful to be involved with that. Through April I had meetings I was going to with Rayrock, that was my first meeting, and the second one was Colomac Mine, and the other one was Sahti, where we talked about caribou. So, I was pretty busy that month and I told one of my chief and councillors that I am getting more information because of being involved in these meetings that I go to. I guess one of my Elders told me that they need

255 someone like me to be talking, because this is what I like to do, to talk to people. I am not a shy  
256 person, I can speak to whoever I want so that is why the Elders like me because I just saw  
257 whatever I can and pass my knowledge and my skills onto other generations. Because of these  
258 Elders I know my tradition and I love my tradition and to pass on my tradition. I love to sing most  
259 of the time so people asked me to their wedding so I can sing. I give out my heart to them  
260 because that is what I like to do. So, I'm grateful for being Tłıchò.

261  
262 **Claire:** I wanted to say thank you, this is my first time at Diavik. I am glad we had such a nice  
263 day I actually think I may have gotten a sunburn a little bit which isn't surprising I burn very  
264 easily (laughs). But thank you very much it was great getting to listen to everyone and hear what  
265 you had to say about your land. I am very grateful to be here, I will cherish this for sure.  
266 Anybody want to say anything?

267  
268 **Myra:** I am so glad that we were able to do this circle here and to hear everybody's experiences  
269 today. And to have you as our first guests back to Diavik. We are going to continue this  
270 discussion tomorrow so please keep all of that in your head. We want to hear what we can  
271 improve, what we might still be missing and really get down those final recommendations for TK  
272 Watching when we close. On that note, the plane is here!

1 TK Panel Session #15: Day Three Transcription

2  
3 **Peter:** Thanks everyone for showing up yesterday. Just a couple housekeeping items, the  
4 report for session 14 is at the table and the report for session 13 is at the table. So you can pick  
5 up those whenever you want at the break. We are just going to begin with any follow-up  
6 comments or questions from the tour yesterday. Gord will be here briefly this morning to answer  
7 any questions just before we get into the community watching program. We just want to make  
8 sure everyone has had a chance to ask questions or make comments on the tour before we get  
9 into the regular agenda.

10  
11 **Barb:** At some point where will I hear about the Coppermine River testing. When and where? I  
12 just want to know if it will be done.

13  
14 **Gord:** You asked the day before about whether we could come to Kugluktuk and present that  
15 info is that what you are talking about?

16  
17 **Barb:** Yes, and are you going to up the testing? Like you said you did it only 2 times a year,  
18 maybe because you are closing you should do springtime, summertime, fall time just to see the  
19 difference in the water.

20  
21 **Gord:** We do it twice a year. We will take that as a recommendation. And can we come back to  
22 you when we come back to Kugluktuk to present the information. We can discuss why we think  
23 2 is good or the difference 2 would make, would that make sense?

24  
25 **Barb:** Yup.

26  
27 **Gord:** I'm not sure who the best person is to coordinate with in Kugluktuk, we sometimes have  
28 trouble getting permission but we will get that sorted hopefully in the next 6 months so we can  
29 present that information.

30  
31 **Peter:** Any other questions for Gord? He will be back this afternoon but is only here briefly this  
32 morning.

33  
34 **Nancy:** From what I saw yesterday, I was so happy with what has been done. It looks so much  
35 nicer than the first time it had been there, so I am happy people are working so hard. Thank  
36 you.

37  
38 **Gord:** When I got home last night I had a call with Angela, our president, and gave her that  
39 same feedback. And the mine site was very happy to hear that feedback that you appreciate  
40 what they are doing. I think a lot of them are worried that they are doing all this work, but no one  
41 really cares. So, I was very clear to all of them that it does really matter. So that feedback from  
42 you really helped.

43  
44 **Barb:** I was just thinking last night that I had seen the pictures you had up. There was a picture  
45 of all these tunnels underground. If you fill those up with water will the water level go down?

46  
47 **Gord:** That is exactly what happens, it takes about 6 months for all the water to be filled up.  
48 While we are doing that the water levels go down by a very little bit during that time but then it  
49 will return to normal. So, during that one time it will go down a very small amount. It is a very big  
50 lake. If it were smaller, it would be more challenging. But you're right, all the tunnels you saw will  
51 fill in with water. Good question.

52  
53 **Wayne:** I was wondering if we could maybe get a list from the mine about exactly what they are  
54 burying in these piles. I saw some tires and I don't think they are going to freight them back out  
55 on the ice road. So, I am wondering what is going to go into these landfills?  
56

57 **Gord:** Great idea, we can make a list of what does go in and what doesn't go in. So that it is  
58 clearer for everyone. You are right, we use general terms like inert waste but let's make some  
59 lists for you, that is a very reasonable request.  
60

61 **Peter:** Another thing, just from looking at it is, are there things that the communities could use or  
62 some Indigenous groups. Like what happens to that fitness equipment, could it go to some  
63 youth centres throughout the entire area? I know we are 3 years away yet, but it would be good  
64 to start thinking of that.  
65

66 **Gord:** We are starting a program this summer with all the business arms of the community as  
67 well as other groups to start making a list of things on site that may be useful to donate or take  
68 off site by someone else. So, we are starting to get groups to come up to start looking at all that  
69 is on site to start looking at what we have on site and start making a plan for what we can sell or  
70 donate, other than put in a landfill. There are things that we clearly know are waste and things  
71 that are assets which means it has value to someone or something. And the distinction between  
72 that is if someone wants it.  
73

74 **Peter:** Wayne said he would take any beans that were surplus (laughs).  
75

76 **Charlie:** The last four years was the last time I visited Ekati. At that time, they were checking the  
77 health of the fish. Some were healthy but others were different, at that time we ate the fish, but  
78 today we have concern about the water. Once you put something in the water it will stay in the  
79 water. Even the fumes from the airlines goes into the land and the water. That is how the water  
80 changes. Even the fish and when they eat the things in the water, the fish changes.  
81 When I went there 4 years ago, they checked the fish and also the sediment. Whenever there is  
82 any kind of mine, it contaminates the land and the animals. Everything changes around the  
83 mine site. We cannot say that it does not affect the environment at all. Even if the mine is there  
84 40 - 50 years the contamination is still there, and you can see it.  
85

86 Today we have mines in our area and the fish has changed and I notice myself that I'm not  
87 going to eat the fish in the area. Even the small game such as rabbit and the fish. We also have  
88 woodland caribou so we notice that there is a difference in some of these animals and the  
89 texture of the meat is different, we notice. It is just so soft. The texture of the fish is just so soft.  
90 There is a difference, so we wonder why there is a change. We have forest fires so that affected  
91 the land as well. Even the smoke and the soot go onto the land and into the lakes. That goes  
92 into the water and I'm sure the fish eat this as well. Sometimes we used to go on the land and  
93 have fish camps, long ago. When we did that, we noticed that the water is always moving so  
94 anything that goes on top on in water the fish notice that. Even when they see a bit of  
95 movement, they eat it. Even the tip of my finger, they eat it. Whenever we had fish camps where  
96 there were plenty of fish on the lake, we set nets. But now we can't even eat those fish.  
97 Just recently, I haven't been able to go on the land, but I hear of other regions. I used to go out  
98 on the skidoo into all the other regions. I know of areas where there is good camping and good  
99 fishing. I know that any kind of vegetation and berries, I know exactly where they used to grow.  
100 Today I don't see that, there is a big different. I can't travel there so I don't know how they grow  
101 now. We barely go out into the barren ground in the fall time as well. But I notice there is some  
102 differences, whenever there is mines you can expect some contamination from the mine.

Even with the roads they create the blast rocks and use these rocks to build roads and we have that dust that goes all over the place on the land. We notice the fish changes, it has a little to do with the forest fires as well. I was once a forest firefighter. Even if it is a little distance, especially when the forest fire is close to the community. Also lands that are beyond the community they don't seem to tend to those ones. That is the most important land because it is where we hunt, trap, and gather. I travel these long distances and sometimes they don't bother to put these fires out because it is too far from the community. It seems like it is a small fire, and they say just let it go, when we do let it go, it becomes a large forest fire. These are all questionable things that they are doing. I just wanted to mention these things because there is a lot of contamination from the mining industry. It seems like they do what they want out there. We had a good trip, thank you for taking care of us out there.

**Peter:** Any other comments or clarifications?

**Wayne:** I'd just like to mention to the people here that if you are mining for minerals like gold, or copper, or silver, these mines have a lot of pollution. But diamond mines are separate from that, there is pollution, but the percentage compared with mining minerals is very low. They aren't using arsenic, or other chemicals. Mineral mining and diamond mining are different things. The whole process is different. Even though there is some, their pollution is very minor compared to mineral mining.

**Peter:** Thanks Gord. What we are going to do next is to get into the input on the community watching program. Over the next 5, 10, 20, years we want input from everyone around the table on how we can design a community watch program and looks at the Diavik site and how it returns back to as natural a state as possible. We want you to throw out some ideas about what the site would look like. What do you want to make sure is watched or monitored after the closing of the mine to make sure the site returns back to its natural state after the closing of the mine? So, we are going to spend around 15 minutes just talking about that then we will take a break and then we will break into smaller groups to continue that discussion. But we wanted to have a vision into the future about what is important to all of you.

**Barb:** I think we did say some of these at the last.

**Peter:** We did say some at the last but there are new people this time so we can add to the last session, but it is okay to repeat it also.

**Wayne:** I'd just like to say the before the mine go there it looked pristine. The land, there was no pollution, no garbage. So, what I think would be the way to go is I asked Gord if there was backhaul when they take stuff up to the mine and the truck comes out empty. He said that there was backhaul being performed by the mine. I think that it is not just what you can see it is more than that. It is not just above ground but also below ground too, I think there should be some attention paid to what is going underground. It is equally important. But they hauled in so much stuff to build the mine. So, it was nice to hear that they do have a back haul, but we don't know what it is coming out. It would be nice to know what is coming back on those trucks.

**Peter:** So, you'd like to see more stuff hauled out?

**Wayne:** Yes, if it can be hauled out, they can haul it out.

**August:** When we were down at the mine yesterday, I have been going there back and forth so many years. What I'm seeing is that everything is different about it and I'm very happy about it. One thing that was said today was that we did say way back in our meetings with Diavik, the newcomers are saying the same things. I forgot what I was going to say now, my mind is going too (laughs). But these reports here, whenever I go back home, I bring it to my wildlife office for anyone to look at I've been doing that since the mine started, there are so many. When people ask me a question, I send them to the office to look at. Even the two days of the meetings, I'm bringing it back home now. For meetings that is what I do, what was said today that we did say way back when the mine was open and I was on the board is that the diamond you guys take out of our land is no poison, it is the money. Some different mines are different, and some use the chemicals for that. That's all I have to say, thank you.

**Barb:** What Wayne was saying, he was talking about the big garbage and everything. Yesterday I asked about the big pit where the cement bags. I asked Gord couldn't you take that garbage south or somewhere and he said, "Where? Who is going to take our garbage, even the toxic stuff?" I asked is it money that you are worried about, he said yeah. It is crazy that money is an issue when it is our land, you know everybody's land. You've got to take as much as you can with you if you are closing the mine. You need to take as much stuff with you as you can when you are moving out of there.

**Peter:** Any comments on what you would like the site to look like?

**Barb:** The vegetation plots that we have seen yesterday were a good test, it looked like things were growing. The whole thing was covered in grass or plants. I really think that you should leave something behind like that to make it more natural.

**Peter:** So, more vegetation where the vegetation will grow? Okay.

**Wayne:** There should be some buildings left there for future reference to find out what is happening there over the next 40 - 50 years, that would mean they would have to leave a runway there too.

**Peter:** Who do you think should be responsible for the building or the runway? Should it be the federal government or the community?

**Wayne:** It should be a shared proposition; the mine is there and the land still has to be looked into. Otherwise, if the mine wasn't there it wouldn't have to be looked into. It has to be a shared thing between the Feds and the mine, I don't know about the communities because they didn't have anything to do with it. The Feds shouldn't kick about it because they got enough of a kick back from the taxes.

**Peter:** Who would use it in the future?

**Wayne:** Maybe not the runway because you can get in by chopper. But the building should definitely be there for someone to go and check on. There doesn't need to be much upkeep on the buildings because most of them were made out of time anyways. Maybe once in a while send in some tradesmen to look things over and bring them up to par and then fly them back out. Also, the trappers and people passing on the land have a place to camp rather than packing tents or tarps or whatever. They may not fish in that area, but they could be passing through that area.



**Peter:** So, it could be used by anyone travelling through the area so it would almost be like some type of cabin or survival building.

**Wayne:** And for the people who are monitoring this stuff. It would serve more than one purpose.

**Kathy:** We had this conversation in one of our sessions regarding the runway and the buildings and who was going to be responsible for the upkeep of them. I believe Gord was there and someone made the comment that maybe for the runway the maintenance could be shared with Ekati. Because at some point they will be going into shut down as well. So maybe there could be a conversation with Ekati about keeping that runway maintained if it is going to stay. They mentioned something about the GNWT. I think they are the ones that are going to get the dollars from Diavik for after monitoring, so there was a mention of the GNWT we didn't say which department. Then also some input from the communities about developing a monitoring plan about when they go out. I just thought I'd add that.

**Albert:** I'd like to say good morning, my name is Albert Boucher from Łutsek'e. We are talking about the mine, how we can work good at the mine, so we always have to stress this that it is not only one mine we are talking about. Once we close this one mine down the next mine will follow. So, this is why we are putting recommendations. The water and the land is not going to be the same. Even the fish are not going to be healthy right away, the water won't be clean right away. Anything that is contaminated will take a while. Even the roads we have to work on leveling out the land.

Now we are talking about some of the buildings that we will use. So, I would like to have a building there so the hunters and trappers can utilize it. We should also leave the airport there for emergency just in case. We should also have a phone or radio there too, but now we have our own satellite radio. I would further stress having a building there for hunters and trappers to use.

I am also concerned regarding the monitoring of the water. Regarding the fish and the water, I think we should monitor the water in the winter, and in the summer, and even after the mine closes, we still need to monitor the land. Right now, the fish look really skinny and unhealthy so we can't eat it. So how are we going to fix all these things? I would like to know how much money they took off our land? And if they just leave everything like that and take off that is not very good. As Dene People we are the one who will be left behind and who will suffer if anything happens to our land.

Now, I am thinking about it, and it is a big concern to me regarding the land, and water, and also the river that goes into Coppermine from Lac de Gras. They don't even know what will happen with that in the future, we can't look that far. So, before anything and happens in the future we are going to have to put some plans in place to stop this. How do we do this? Because if the water is contaminated, nothing is going to be alive. Because every living thing needs water. Like I said there will be other mines closing on our land. So, if we do it really good the other mines are going to follow our plans. And also, regarding the tires and all the things you will bury. I don't want those metals to be buried under the ground, bring it back to where you got it from. There is contamination in the metal that will seep down into the lake. You could see around the garbage area it is all yellow in the wintertime, you could see all that snow is all yellow near the garbage. One time we also had a uranium mine in our land and now the fish over there is all contaminated because the water was contaminated. The fish over there is all contaminated, we didn't know what was happening at the time. Were illiterate regarding mining. Now we are being taught what is going on with the mine so now we have concerns.

When you do blasting, everything flies into the water. A lot of people have concerns about what is happening on our land and about how they want the people to monitor. So, you have to listen to us people, because this is our land. The mining company is taking out a lot of money and we don't benefit from it. It is like the mining company is destroying a huge piece of our land and taking that away from us.

As Dene People we talk about our land because we live and hunt on it, and we know how our land is. So, this is why we tell people we want to work really good with them if they want to work on our land. So, this is very good I don't want anything hidden from me. If I see something I don't like I talk about it right now. I think about the future of the next generation. It is our turn to teach and watch the land. We are survivors, we survive off our wildlife. So now we don't want our land to be destroyed, contaminated by the mining. So, all those metals, tires, I don't want them buried. I want them taken back where they came from. When we first went over there, they put the rock pile, they made it really high. But that is where the caribou migrate, and it is really high. What if the caribou went up there and fell down, then broke their leg? We want the hills to be flat or a little bit lower slope so the caribou can pass. And if that is done, I will be really happy.

If you listen to us, leave some building and the airport there to be used.

I know the fish and water won't be perfect right away, it will take a long time to be almost natural. Regarding rainwater, snow water, we have to watch that that doesn't seep into the lake. It has to be pumped out. I'd say about 150 years the land will look the same again. When we went out there for the fish tasting program. There is no food in the fish stomach, only bugs. They had big heads and skinny bodies. Our fish are changing in Lac de Gras so all the materials that was brought to Lac de Gras I want it all taken back except for one building and the airport. So, it will be good when they take everything back to where they got it from. Maybe some of the stuff that the Dene People might need like boats and motors. Those should be offered to the community so they can buy it. Like skidoos, we need those things because they are so expensive. Maybe some of the trucks. If they are broken send them back where they came from. Like I said, the metal contaminates the water. I don't want any metals left behind. If the Elders get together and come up with good recommendations by helping each other from different communities. I will end with saying that I love my land, and my wildlife, I don't want anything to happen to it. Some people only think about the money. That is what is happening with the mining companies, all they are after is the money. Dene People are not like that, we depend on our land. I am very thankful that we have a good productive meeting and you'll be letting us know when our next meeting will be. Thank you.

**Peter:** For your information because you weren't there yesterday, the big rock pile has some nice slopes. That is what Nancy was talking about earlier.

**Barb:** Myra just has some pictures of before the site became a mine. You see that is natural. Just so you know what they talked about today and what you want to see when the mine is closing.

#### PRESENTATION OF MINE IMAGES OVER TIME

**Peter:** Those are great images over time, hopefully in the future there will be more images showing the site going back to a more natural state.

BREAK

## BREAKOUT GROUP SESSIONS

**Peter:** We are going to now present to the group. We will present and then have questions and comments around the table. For the four presentations then that will make the recommendations to Diavik on the community watching plan. We will start with the North Slave Métis.

**Claire:** I am going to present on behalf of Kathy and Wayne, we had a great discussion about the TK Watching Program. The way it is summarized here, we have some key ideas about what the TK Watching should have as part of it. We said the TK Panel can provide guidance on the process, but a separate committee should be established to include the Indigenous groups here. This committee will decide when the observations will happen, who will do it, and what exactly will be monitored from year to year.

The group wanted to make a clear note that this watching program won't be static, it will need to adapt and evolve to the observations on the land and the effects of climate change on the area. Then we went into what exactly are we watching in this watching program, we talked about wildlife first. The key thing to look for here will be that the diversity of the wildlife is increasing, so many different kinds of animals. Also look at the behaviours of the animals and the health. Including the internal health, so looking at the tissues of the animals, particularly caribou. The group thought this was important because the diversity of the animals will help to tell the story of how the land is recovering.

The next topic was about vegetation. This was a key topic because it shows the early signs of the land recovering. And the healthy vegetation will be an incentive for the animals to come back because they have a food source. We talked about mushrooms, lichen, berries and different plants and particularly observing the quantity and health of them.

Then we went and spoke about the water and the fish. One of the things that was discussed was the water clarity in Lac de Gras and there had been some observations of not being able to see to the bottom anymore close to the mine. The TK Watching program would look to see how the clarity of the water is returning to normal as the mine is no longer in operation. There was also a recommendation of the fish camp continuing and those camps would observe and record the quantity, the location of the fish and the health of them. It was also recommended to scoop some of the sediment from the bottom and look at that, to see how it changes over time. And overall observations, one would be to have fly-bys of the old mine site. In the winter this could be to look at the cleanliness of the snow and the ice conditions and to see how the animals move across the land. We then had a conversation about how often this monitoring would happen. It was recommended to have 1 visit per year, alternating between a summer visit and a winter visit. In the winter the focus would be on fish and fish health. Then we discussed who would be doing the watching. We had two categories, there would be the watching committee which would be established and then land users who are out on the land. They can provide feedback on what they see or report wildlife sightings or injury or stuff like that.

The last thing we discussed was the timeline about how this would go. Splitting it up into 5 years, 10 years and then 20 + years, so going into the future more. The group, for the 5 years, discussed how important vegetation would be because that would be what brings back the animals. Looking at the types of animals coming back, continuing the fish testing, and looking at that water clarity as well. We also talked about looking at the location of the fish in the first few years to see if they are coming back closer to the mine. As well, during the first 5 years, they recommended looking at the presence of small animals and birds. And then as it gets to be 10 years passed closure, expanding on all of these, we might add in looking more at larger

mammals that are coming through. And then looking at the filled-in mine pits and seeing if fish are returning and if vegetation is growing in that spot. And again, looking at the diversity of wildlife and the amount of wildlife. And then going into 20 years down the road the questions would be: Are animals using the land as they did before? And are people using the land as they did before? So, kind of the bigger picture questions. And then just to restate that this will change and that it will evolve as the program continues and will be influenced by what is seen. I think that was everything. Kathy, and Wayne, is there anything that I missed or that you'd like to expand on further for everyone? No? Okay great. One question that we did have Gord, we were talking a little bit about frogs. Are there many frogs around the site? No. Okay then that is it we will open it up to the group to ask questions if you have any. No questions? That is a good sign!

**Vikki:** There is a lot of similarities to the first group but what the group had discussed was with the closure of the mine. We know there is funding for community programming and training. Having funding set aside for after they close so the neighbouring communities can access it. The other suggestion is for the watching team to have youth, Elder, and a community member who is knowledgeable on the land for each of the affected communities. Also, to have both genders for the youth and the Elder. And also, for the site visit similar to the first one, do one every year at different times and different locations.

The fish camp, sample fish in the winter and in the fall. And also, taking sediments from under the water. And doing fish sampling and tasting.

For wildlife, have remote cameras around the PKC and the north country rock pile area to see if there are any animals passing through. Have a knowledgeable person travel to the mine site by skidoo and report back to the communities.

Also, to have EMAB and KIA to work together and monitor the closed mine site, and also water watching, report on monitoring how the levels of water are and report back to the community.

Taste the water and see what the water levels are. Fish and water testing at close to Kugluktuk at the beginning of the river flow. Consulting with the Elders, I know not a lot of Elders can read the reports and the documents. More videos in their language so they can have a better understanding. The community watching team if you don't see something right then who do you report to. Diavik? GNWT? WLWB?

Look at old and new spots for vegetation watching, see if there are any berries that were growing. For the land, no high-danger spots or the dump, anything that is being buried. For the PKC, to look to see if anything is opening up, or leaking. Future dust monitoring, for the community watch team is to keep the old posts that are there right now so that the watch team can go out and watch it. Look for permafrost slumping and also temperature monitoring. They were asking about how they would get there, float plane or regular runway? Where would the team stay? The tent frames need to be bigger in the kitchen for group discussion. That's all, do you guys have any questions?

**Peter:** Good job Vikki. Any questions or comments on the presentations from the Kugluktuk group? Do you know if there are any answers to how the team would stay out there?

**Gord:** We are certainly working on it and exploring the options of how we could keep some of the camp. The camp that we were having lunch, it has 4 wings. Do we keep that and maybe one or two of the wings, a few of the buildings or the airstrip? Or whether we take it all down and put up a bigger better tent camp. We can always do what we did in exploration where we land on

floats or skies. We will need something there for a little while to support it but maybe eventually it gets back to the size of the tent camp.

Or do we take it all down and have something new like the tent camp or something more permanent?

We will still be around, it might not be called Diavik, it might be Rio Tinto. There are legal requirements for us to monitor the PKC dam, so I sure hope it would be straight to us where any of the concerns are going to come.

**Myra:** I have the pleasure of working with the Tłıchǫ and the Yellowknives Dene and I think I was the only one who only spoke English in the group. I was working with Elders, and though I was trying to convince Lena to come and present...she is still back there (laughs).

We started the discussion about the building. People were quite interested in knowing how we will get out there and what supports there will be to do the watching. Leaving the buildings for watching, travelling, emergency purposes. Leaving the air strip, who will own them, can you leave some woods out there. So, we did get into some of those practical stuff. But then we discussed vegetation, we pulled the art rendering map down.

There is still quite a bit of grey on that map, there was an interest in seeing more vegetation and how could that happen. First there was discussion about bringing in soils to accelerate vegetation growth. There are some examples from Rayrock remediation that is occurring there. So, they've seen some revegetation and were interested in that, but then trying to bring the group back to this idea and what you'd like to see in the future. A lot of the discussion was about bringing the site to as natural a state as possible and that nature will take care of that. This idea that weather, wind, rain, natural erosion will wear things down as part of the natural process of cleansing the land. Even the dikes will be worn down some what from the water and the ice.

We talked about wildlife, they will eventually come back naturally once the mine has stopped and the disturbances are gone. There is an expectation that wildlife will come back to the area. We didn't get into some of the details about the specific things to watch but we looked at the bigger picture of things to watch like the landscape, vegetation, wildlife and how there is a natural process that will occur over time. We had a youth who had some recommendations, she had been at the mine before and had some thoughts.

We will reach out to her and make sure we get anything she has to add. I can't remember if it was Charlie or Peter, but, "in 100 years, well, we will be under the ground feeding the caribou!"

**Barb:** Is that girl that you were talking about going to come back? It would be nice to hear her comments as she has worked on the mine.

**Myra:** I did encourage her to come back but she is just so busy that she didn't think she'd come back but we will touch base with her and encourage her to come back.

**Kathy:** One of the suggestions in the presentation was to possibly bring in soil to revegetate the land. I think I would be cautious about that. I garden and my neighbour gardens. Last year she got some soil from Hay River that choked out her entire garden. So, soil that comes from some place else is very dangerous for the arctic. We don't know what's in it. I've heard reports of people in Yellowknife finding slugs in the soil coming from the south. I don't know their survival rates. But I think using soil from elsewhere can be dangerous. I just wanted to mention that.

**Myra:** Thank you so much for that Kathy, I know we did have recommendations in the past like that, but it seems to me that over the course of time the TK panel has moved towards more of a natural healing. That is kind of the way how our conversation went, we started with the idea of bringing in soils from outside but then it was that the land would return to a more natural state.

**Peter:** Now Brenda is going to present on the Łutselk'e group.

**Brenda:** So, from our group what they requested more youth, ladies and young men, in our meetings and to work as environmental monitors. One youth and one Elder. One recommendation, for the pit instead of putting just water put halfway with boulders and the other half with water. That is what they said. Because sometimes the water wouldn't freeze. And the controlling of the dust, train all the youth in the environment to watch the mines. There was a lot of talk about global warming and one recommendation from one of the Elders was to move the fish camp away from the boulders to a nice smooth location. Before refilling the dykes check with Ekati because they had underground water and see how that is going and if they are losing any water, double check with that.

They talked about the vegetation, keep watching that. The buildings should be donated to all the First Nations, boats, oil stove, tundra tents, should be donated to all the first nations. Mostly what was already talked about is similar to what they said, everything is documented down. Any questions? Gord, maybe you can answer the question about putting the rock in the pit then putting the water back in?

**Gord:** That is something we have talked about from the beginning. It is really expensive and not the best way to manage the acid-generating rock. So, we don't want to put that into the water, we want to keep that frozen on the land.

**Albert:** The questions I want to ask is every time the Elders want something you are always putting money in front. And how much money you took off my land? The land has been there from the memorial of time, it was pristine and beautiful but now after the mining company came in it doesn't even look the same anymore. But what the Dene People are requesting is to fill the pit with half water/half rock.

The reason we are stressing for this to be done, if the water is very, very deep it won't freeze at all to my knowledge. And when it is really deep, if something falls through it would be really hard to take out. And we wouldn't even know it was there. This is our land. We want people to come to our land and work with us at least. This isn't for me but for the generations behind me. They will come back to the land; our Elders have told us that. We will be going back to the land that is the only way we will survive. That is what our Elders who look into the future tell us. I am pretty sure it is easy for you guys; you took the rocks out of the open pit but it's kind of hard for your guys to put it back. Why is that? You won't even tell us how much money you guys pull out of my land. Look at all the material that you guys brought over there. If our land is destroyed no money can pay for it, I'll tell you that. When we talk about our land as Dene People, we go all the way out to Kugluktuk. That water is very important to the people of Kugluktuk, everybody uses that river. So, we don't want our water to be polluted. And if our water is polluted that will be expensive. That is what we are trying to prevent, but you keep saying it is too expensive.

Maybe we should have a big meeting with the mining executives then maybe we will be heard. Just give us a call and we will be ready to meet. Just give us a call and we will be ready to meet. We want the mining company to work off of exactly what our recommendations said.



We have to try to make sure we close this mine good, so anything that the Elders don't like. You guys always have an obstacle in front of us. Why is that? You are working on our land so you should be listening to us so we can work together with the mining companies. And when I ask questions, it is because I see with my eyes. If I didn't see with my eyes, I wouldn't say anything. That's all for now.

**Gord:** Could I ask a question back? That's the first I've heard that the ice won't freeze over top. That's not something we've heard before. We think that it will freeze. So, we do think it will be safe.

**Albert:** When they do the blasting there is some residue left behind. Even the trucks doing the hauling, the oil and exhaust drips on the road. This is why if the oil is mixed with water, it is not going to freeze. It is not only me. I had conversations with other community Elders when they first took that open pit they should have washed the acid off the rocks and make sure there is no oil mixed with those rocks. Because we still have concerns about how you guys are going to close up that open pit. The best option we know is to put half the rocks back in then fill it up with water. If that works, well, then the other mining companies will follow. So we don't want our land to be contaminated because of this mining. I don't want that open pit to be filled up with water. We have been thinking about that for a while, but you don't listen. If you have another question, I will answer you.

**Gord:** No, I don't have another question.

**Peter:** Is there anything else related to the community watching program that anyone else wants to bring up before Gord just gives us a general response to the recommendations made? He already gave some feedback already but any comments before Gord responds?

**Gord:** I think this future watching program is a difficult thing. One of the things I heard that I really agree with is that it is going to change over time as we understand and see different things. We can't guess right now everything that we are going to look at, it is an important message that we start but be ready to make changes as they come up.

I think if we put all of those lists together, and past recommendations, we are going to have a comprehensive list of things that people want to see, I think that is a great place for us to take it from you now and start to figure out how to make that work in a watching program for closure. I really thank you for all of your efforts and all of your patience as we try to explain what we are hoping to do at closure. I can't wait to see it all written down, that will be very helpful for me. Thank you very much for all of your ideas.

**Barb:** Do you like any of them? (laughs)

**Gord:** It's more like, do I not like any of them. I don't think I've heard much more new information but you put it more specifically which is what I was hoping we'd do. All very good!

**Peter:** Myra is going to talk about next steps and any future meetings and reports as well or anything else that people are wondering about regarding what happens now.

**Myra:** I will just reiterate what Gord has said, it was very difficult at the beginning to see how we were going to end this session because we have been asking the same questions to many of you.

558 So, we are really grateful that you were able to come up with some very specific direction of us  
559 as we put together this watching program. It is easy for us to do it from the science side  
560 because that is what we know. Thank you so much for sharing all of this information with us. As  
561 I explained earlier at the last session, we are putting together this watching program to share  
562 back to the water board in our final closure and reclamation plan. So we are going to take these  
563 ideas and use this as a framework. We have a session with community staff and some  
564 regulatory where we will share some of this information. We would also like to get back to each  
565 of your communities to also share what we heard and get feedback from your individual  
566 communities, your staff and your leadership, and then put that together to present to the water  
567 board. There will still be things that are changing over the years as we develop this program as  
568 we are watching changes.

569  
570 **Gord:** I have one more question of you all as we go forward. As you all know you are the 5  
571 Indigenous groups with participant agreement with Diavik. That set the who sits on this panel.  
572 We have been asked by the Deninu Kue, Fort Resolution Métis Nation, and the NWT Métis  
573 Nation, who do not have agreements with Diavik and who do not have representation on this  
574 panel, if we would consider including them on this panel. They have an interest, same as yours,  
575 of sharing their Traditional Knowledge with us.

576  
577 We are not entirely sure what to do with the request, it is our problem to deal with, but we would  
578 like to hear what this panel thinks about making a change and adding more people. We would  
579 be interested in hearing what you have to say before we make a decision.

580  
581 **Peter:** Just for clarification, Gord were you in the room when this was discussed?

582  
583 **Gord:** If this has been asked or answered we will leave it at that.

584  
585 **Peter:** For anyone who wasn't there, Myra did ask that question back in April and the response  
586 was very strong. That this is a political question and that it needs to go back to leadership.  
587 Unfortunately, Gord wasn't here for that last time. But that was the answer from everyone  
588 around the table last time.

589  
590 **Albert:** Thank you I've been listening to everything. We had a really good meeting, I think. The  
591 question came up again, we talked about it. It is not up to us because we represent our  
592 community on these committees. We cannot make this decision on our own. This is a question  
593 we have to ask our leadership. We are here representing all our community members. Even you  
594 have to answer to your boss, we are just like that here in the committee. We can't say anything,  
595 we have to question the leadership. We have no authority to make a big decision like this  
596 without our leadership and our council. So, this is what was passed on to them but we didn't get  
597 an answer yet. You might even get a call before they consult us, so this is the things we need to  
598 pass on. I really enjoyed this meeting.

599  
600 **Peter:** Any final comments around the table before we wrap up.

601  
602 **Peter Sangris:** (inaudible) The committee should meet on a regular basis to update each other  
603 because most of us are Elders, and the communication is not always that clear. The lake itself  
604 doesn't freeze over but that is the nature of the land. There are all sorts of fish in the water  
605 these were all being done by the creator. Why the fish change over time, maybe there is some  
606 mercury and then some salty water. Some of the stuff in the water is not good for fish, so  
607 overtime the mine was in there and then we could have done more studies for the fish. Allergies  
608 in the water can be hard on the fish.

609 When one member mentioned something about the fish not being healthy in past studies, the  
610 reason why could be because there are a lot of little streams, creeks, river, and a lot of different  
611 allergens that float in. And then most of us have just joined the committee and we should have  
612 done more study in the past. These are mostly my comments and concerns with the water,  
613 thank you.  
614

615 **Nancy:** I am so happy to be back, for our people to learn the way I was talking in the beginning  
616 because we are upset about our facilitators. I am not talking about people, but for the future we  
617 should be informed. I am so happy today that I get to have these notes to bring home because  
618 sometimes people ask what we had a meeting about so I can show them this and say this is  
619 what we had a meeting about. Thank you and have a safe trip home.  
620

621 CLOSING

# **APPENDIX F**

## **Photos**



**Photo 1** Monique (Margaret) Nitsiza, Mary-Jane Francis, Nancy Kadlun, Barbara Adjun and Vikki Niptanatiak at the airport in Yellowknife.



**Photo 2** Open prayer at the airport at Diavik by Benjamin Pea'a and Jessie Eyakfwo.



**Photo 3** Mary-Jane Francis and Jessie Eyakfwo talk at the front of the bus.



**Photo 4** TK Panel participants and DDMI staff during the pre-site tour Safety Orientation.





**Photo 5** Monique Nitsiza and Mary-Jane Francis look at a photo from a past TK Panel site visits.



**Photo 6** Vikki Naiptanatiak at A154 pit.



**Photo 7** Left to right: Sean Sinclair, Wayne Langenhan, Brenda Michel, and Barbara Adjun at the A154 pit.



**Photo 8** Mary-Jane Francis and Monique Nitsiza.





**Photo 9** A154 pit site.



**Photo 10** Left to right: Nancy Kadlun, Brenda Michel, Katherine E Arden, Barbara Adjun, Sean Sinclair, and August Enzoë at A154 pit.



**Photo 11** TK Panel participant listen to Sean Sinclair discuss the Processed Kimberlite Containment area.



**Photo 12** Wayne Langenhan and August Enzo near the Processed Kimberlite Containment area.





**Photo 13** TK Panel participant in front of the Processed Kimberlite Containment area.



**Photo 14** TK Panel participants and DCE staff in front of the wind turbines.



**Photo 15** Vikki Niptanatiak and Nancy Kadlun in front of the wind turbines.



**Photo 16** Group Photo at the Diavik complex.





**Photo 17** Sean Sinclair and Barbara Adjun look at wind turbines.



**Photo 18** Peter D Sangris and James Rabesca view the re-vegetation area behind the North Country Rock Pile.



**Photo 19** TK Panel participants look at the landfill location.



**Photo 20** TK Panel members view the vegetation plots





**Photo 21** Natisha Drygeese, Claire Timcombe, James Rabesca, Mary-Jane Francis, Monique (Margaret) Nitsiza, and Gordon Cumming in the Diavik gym.



**Photo 22** Benjamin Pea'a, Charlie Apples, James Rabesca, Dylan Price, Gord Macdonald, Wayne and Myra Berub, in the Diavik gym.



**Photo 23** Angela Bigg, President and COO of Diavik, addresses the TK Panel Participants with Peter Clarkson, and Brenda Michel of DCE in Yellowknife.



**Photo 24** TK Panel participants during discussions in Yellowknife.





**Photo 25** YKDFN and Tłıchǫ TK Panel participants and interpreters discuss their recommendations during a breakout group session.



**Photo 26** Wayne Landenhan, Kathy Arden, Monique (Margaret) Nitsiza, Mary-Jane Francis and Peter D Sangris listen to a presentation.



**Photo 27** Presentation of the summary of recommendations. Brenda Michel in the foreground.



**Photo 28** Myra Berrub presents the summary of recommendations.





**Photo 29** Vikki Niptanatiak presents a summary of recommendations from the KIA breakout group.